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JULY 19, ISSUE NO. 27, 1973

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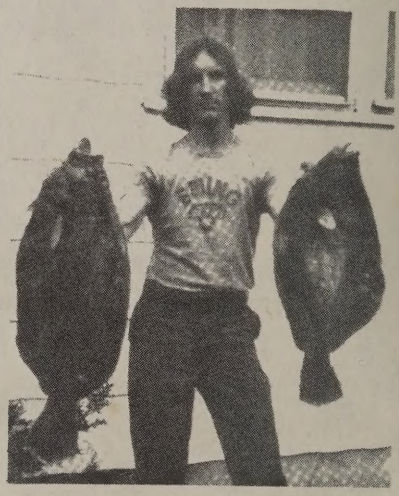

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

THE LARGEST WEEKLY GUIDE FOR FISHERMEN IN THE N.Y. AREA

VOL. 8 NO. 27 JULY 19, 1973

CONTENTS

SUMMER FAVORITES—PORGIES	Vlad Evanoff	8
FLY-FISHING PRIMER	Lou Tabory	10
LIVE-LINING BUNKER	Dick Mermon	12
SHOOTING SHARKS	Capt. George Glas	14
THREE NIGHTS IN JULY	Edward J. Haring	16
WEAKFISH, WEAKFISH, EVERYWHERE	Don Vetter	18
LAUREL LAKE	Fred Guardineer	19
CHUMMING FOR BLUEFISH	Ron Onorato	21

Departments:

NEWS RELEASES	7
CHUM LINES	4
CONTESTS & TOURNAMENTS	6
CLUB NEWS	6

NEWS

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FRONT PAGE PHOTO

Nick Cypros of Mattituck, L.I., holds up a 30 lb. striper that he took while fishing aboard Capt. Ronnie Lepper's charter boat Kim. The bass was taken on a bunker spoon trolled near Long Beach.

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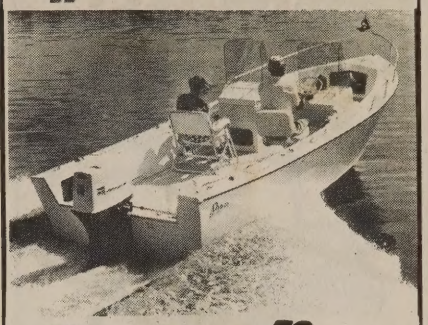

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EDITORIAL

The following two letters are a sample of those received at our offices within the past few weeks.

I am a housewife and mother, but I also accompany my husband on our boat (from one to three days a week) to try my hand at fishing (and relaxation as well).

The reason I'm writing this letter to you is that I hope you publish it, or part of it, in your L.I.F., so that the guilty parties may read the letter and perhaps think twice before they dump their refuse into the ocean water.

In plain English, they are a bunch of "slobs." They probably complain how filthy the waters are where they go fishing, not realizing how much they are contributing to the mess. I blame the owners and captains of these large and small fishing boats. They should keep large cans for trash on board, and inform their customers to use them. They must be strict!!

Also, the fish (fluke) they catch are sometimes too short to keep! But, they don't, as a rule, throw the small ones back. I also blame the captains for that.

We have a refuse bag, and throw back shorts (13½ to 13¾) like clean, good sports should. They should all do likewise!!

Mrs. Elaine Deutsch
& Mr. Philip Deutsch & Family
Brooklyn, N.Y.

On Monday, July 2, 1973 I was fluke fishing on my boat among a few party boats. My friends and I were astonished to see the mates on the party boats bagging short fluke for customers. This was not poor judgement on my part because our small boat drifted close to these boats at times.

The mates would net the fish, go through some false motions to measure the fish and then bag them. In one instance that day, a mate measured a freshly caught short, and knowing it was short approached the passenger that caught it - probably explaining that the fish was short. While the brief conversation between them continued, the fish was in my full view, and it was so darn short it was s sin. Evidently, the passenger wanted the fish, so into the bag it went.

I've reported these boats to the Department of Conservation, but I realize that enforcement is difficult. These boats, and probably many others, would rather have a satisfied customer today and the hell with the fluke fishing tomorrow.

Whenever I take anyone fluke fishing I make a special effort to return fish under 15", not 14". I spend most of my leisure time fishing and it upsets me to see this terrible waste going on.

The only enforcement that is practical in the case of party boats is by boarding by Conservation Officers before the boat returns to port. Shorts are never found on these boats when they arrive at the dock because the fish are dressed out by the passenger or crew on the return trip home. These captains cry the blues when the fluke aren't around. They forget the lean years past when the satisfied customer and the almighty dollar come into the picture.

I realize these boats advertise in the L.I.F., so if this letter gets published, (hopefully to shame these captains), I will be forever convinced that the L.I.F. is not guided by the Almighty Dollar.

Mario Piompiaano
North Massapequa, N.Y.

We have also spoken to many irate readers, captains and boat liverymen over the telephone who have complained not only of the tiny fluke that are being kept, but also of the large numbers of short striped bass being retained on all parts of Long Island. Many have also complained of the popular pastime of throwing refuse overboard.

We have not printed the names of the specific ports and boats mentioned in these letters of concern, but not because of the possible loss of advertising revenue.

If we are to be fair, then we should include every port and those captains

and boat liverymen for taking part, by closing their eyes, in keeping short fish; it is a fact that these acts are occurring everywhere on the salt that this magazine reaches, and shorts are being kept by, it would appear, many who venture forth on any fishing front: party boat; rowboat; private boat; surf; bay; jetty; ad infinitum.

The boat captains know this is happening but, they cannot enforce the law, they can only inform the violators of the law. They are not Conservation Officers, and so it is not their job to enforce the laws; the skippers have signs posted as to legal size limits, and what the anglers do is beyond their control.

If the skippers force the greedy fishermen to return their catch to the water, they will end up losing many of their customers, and the ones to suffer will be the captains and their families.

All of what these men say is true, but it is definitely not morally right. When groups of citizens - fishermen and non-fishermen alike - are organizing to save what resources are remaining from what was once a veritable cornucopia of life, it is a terrible shame that other citizens, through stated reasons ranging from a desire to remain non-involved (which to us means "dead") to a piggish greed for strictly personal gain, are counterbalancing these activities by showing the rest of this teeter-totter world that the ranks of fishermen are, indeed, filled with persons who commit illegal and ecologically unsound acts, not only by keeping short fish but also by dumping their garbage into the very filthy waters they complain of, which others are trying to clean.

In few words, many of you readers and non-readers are giving the world one Hell of a picture of the "sportsmen" you claim to be. This, in no way, is an indictment of one particular group, the party boat captains, to the exclusion of all others. We have personally observed all kinds of fishermen acting like bums, and we find our association with these people - through the act of fishing - extremely distasteful, and there have been many, many times when we have wished that we had the power to simply eliminate these people from the ranks, lump them all together in some desolate place, and let them commit their foul acts on each other rather than on the rest of the world.

This, of course, is our personal fantasy; it exists solely within our minds. To be somewhat more realistic, let us strongly remind all fishermen, regardless of vocation, that the quality of our sport stems from the ability of the quarry to successfully reproduce, with the young being allowed to attain sexual maturity so that they, also, can spawn.

Remove either the fish, themselves, or the water quality necessary for successful spawning and growth to be accomplished, and you have destroyed your own future, whether for pleasure or profit.

Allow the fish to grow and reproduce, and help keep our waters in their natural (Mother Nature "clean") condition, and you will be granted a harvest of plenty that can be reaped for untold generations to come.

Consider well, all of you, what you want to gain from fishing. If you have an uncontrollable desire to catch and eat fish, then buy them at the fish market rather than raping our waters.

If you enjoy fishing for the sport and relaxation it provides, then release those undersized fish and bring your garbage back to the dock where it can be discarded in a more suitable manner.

Remember that man is the only animal that fouls his own nest, but it really doesn't have to be this way.

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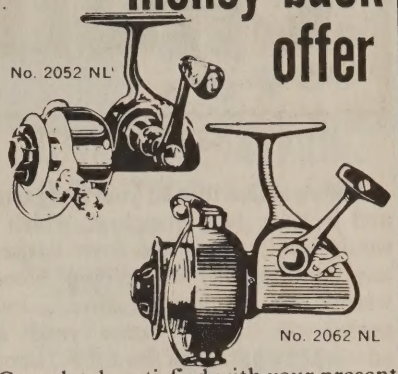

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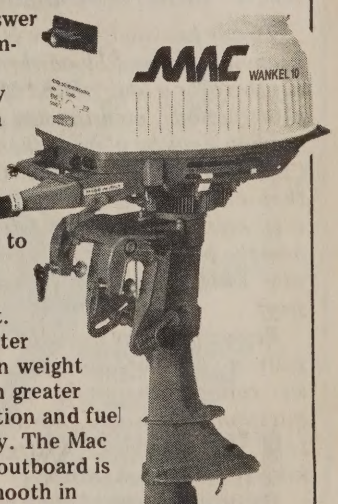

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WORMS AND WET SUITS

I am a subscriber to your magazine and I have two questions which I would like to ask. The first: is there any possible way of keeping bloodworms and sandworms alive a long period of time? I once read an advertisement (not in the L.I.F.) about a certain worm-keeping moss, called Buss-Bedding. In the ad it was stated that seaworms may be kept alive in this mixture by simply adding seawater. Is refrigeration necessary and does this stuff work?

My second question is on an entirely different subject. What should one look for when buying a wet suit? I am fairly new to skin-diving and would like some tips on what to look for when buying other equipment also. Incidentally, I recently bought a U.S. Diver's/Textured/Non-Terfoam suit. Can you comment on this suit's value?

Richard Santiago
East Islip, N.Y.

To our knowledge there is no way of keeping sand-and bloodworms alive in captivity for a long period of time. For short periods, measured in days, they are best kept by placing them in moist "seaweed" in a container. Of course, they must be refrigerated to reduce their metabolic levels. We do not know how the product you mentioned would fare when compared to the natural stuff.

Regarding your question about wet suits: no one here does any diving and we cannot, therefore, answer that question. We would, however, entertain an answer written by a knowledgeable skindiver.

We would suggest that you might, perhaps, join one of the local skindiving clubs. Club members are generally quite happy to help solve each other's problems.

SOS

Please send me the membership address of Save Our Stripers, Inc.

P.S. I think you're doing a terrific job on your paper. Keep up the good work!

Wayne J. Sweeney
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Several readers have requested the address of "Save Our Stripers." Write to this organization at: 57 Glengariff Road, Massapequa Park, New York 11762.

LOCAL TOURNAMENTS

I am interested in finding out information about fishing tournaments in the Smithtown-Stony Brook area.

Richard Wiese
St. James, N.Y.

We have not been notified of any tournaments in the Smithtown to Stony Brook area, but perhaps some of the readers are more aware. If they let us know, we'll pass the information along.

RECIPE FOR STRIPED BASS

My husband is a regular subscriber to the L.I. Fisherman and both of us enjoy the magazine. We have found it very interesting and useful. Please keep up the good work. I would also like to share a quick recipe with the readers who enjoy eating striped bass. (For the big ones if you're tired of the striper steaks or fillets.)

Fillet one large striper and cut into chunks.

Marinate in soy sauce to cover for 24 hours.

Broil or pan fry till done, and sprinkle with soy sauce as it is cooking.

This recipe is also good if you mix a white wine with the soy sauce when marinating. (Use approximately 1 cup wine.)

Mrs. P.M. Gremling

Glad to pass along this recipe for striped bass; we love bass any way they're cooked. Thank you, Mrs. Gremling.

FISHING CLUB SOUGHT

I am a recent devotee of fishing, and I would like very much if you could help me find a fishing club near Maspeth which I could join.

Edward Greenwald
59-70 69th Place
Maspeth, N.Y. 11378

We have printed Mr. Greenwald's complete address so that the membership chairman of any nearby clubs can make the contact directly.

PLAUDITS FOR AUTHOR

I would just like to drop a note of appreciation for the highly entertaining article by L.G. Cacioppo ("Look Homeward Angler") in the July 5th issue of L.I.F.

I found myself laughing aloud at his humorous experiences - especially since I, too, experienced similar adventures.

L.G. Cacioppo is evidently a humorous writer of the highest caliber, and I will be looking for more fine articles by him.

Keep up the good work!

Richie Haushalter
Oceanside, N.Y.

Mr. Cacioppo was new to us, but we also liked his first article for The Long Island Fisherman and that is why it appeared. We will be looking for more articles in the near future from this author.

News Releases

COALITION AGAINST AN UNSOUND BRIDGE

Coalition Against an Unsound Bridge maintains its stand against environmentally destructive projects. At the Department of Environmental Conservation's hearings on the Environmental Plan for New York State in Mineola on July 10, the Coalition generally supported the plan.

This draft plan scores high on pinpointing problem areas, but low on specific solutions. "The DEC should take an official stand against environmentally unsound projects but has not done so in the past, such as on the Rye-Oyster Bay bridge and Stewart Field expansion," said Dr. Donald E. Cotten, chairman of CAUB.

While the DEC recently closed another area of Long Island Sound to shellfishing, in the interest of public safety, it has yet to suggest a remedy to reverse the spreading water pollution.

In order to achieve the goals of the Environmental Plan, the Department of Environmental Conservation must be given legislated authority to enforce its stated policies.

L.I. ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

Highlights of the end of the N.Y.S. Legislative Session

1. THE BRIDGE from Rye to Oyster Bay will not be built, at least in the foreseeable future. The Governor signed the repeal bill on Friday, June 22, removing the authority to build that bridge from the MTA. As a prelude to that dramatic event, the Governor met with a few environmentalists (4) to hear the arguments against the Bridge. The opportunity to express our views was appreciated by all of us, and we tried to use the 1½ hours efficiently. His decision was based on many factors, but we environmentalists must assume that hard work, good reasoning and persistent adherence to our position has paid off.

We must all be encouraged that it is indeed possible to change the thinking of public officials.

So many people helped to make this victory possible! Mutual thanks and appreciation to all of us.

Now we must be alert to the threat of a Suffolk to Connecticut span.

2. WETLANDS: As if one victory weren't enough, we report a second. The Tidal Wetlands bill is now law, also signed by the Governor on June 22. It becomes effective September 1. Be vigilant. This new law will not work miracles.

3. MARINE SANCTUARIES: This bill would have placed triple damages on the company responsible for an oil spill within the 3-mile limit, or a spill outside which flowed into the marine waters. The bill would have licensed oil terminal facilities on the shoreline. The Governor vetoed this bill.

CONTESTS & TOURNAMENTS

TOURNAMENTS

Shelter Cove Marina, Bronx, N.Y., announces that Ralph Punto, Bronx, is leading the fishing tournament with a 43 lb. striper caught off Fort Schuyler on a rubber eel. Second place fish is a 40 lb. striper caught off Harts Island on mackerel by Morris Terry, Bronx, followed by Richard Larkin, Bronx, who pulled up a 39 lb. striper in these same waters of Long Island Sound.

Fin & Feather Association Tourney

The first tournament this year will be the shark tournament held at Montauk Marine Basin, Montauk, N.Y. on July 20 and 21. Entrance fee is $100.00 per boat. This includes bait, chum and two tickets to a clambake dinner held Saturday night. Live music will be supplied for the event. Prizes will be $750.00 cash plus a head mount for the largest Mako; and $250.00 cash plus a head mount for the largest blue shark. There will be handsome trophies for all sharks in each category, including a female division ad a junior division.

LONG ISLAND SHARK TOURNAMENT RESULTS

The First Annual Long Island Open Shark Tournament was held this Saturday and Sunday at Nick's Marina, Hampton Bays. Novelist Budd Schulberg presented the $5,000 cash award for the tournament's largest shark to Captain Kurt Hugelmeyer. Fishing with members of the Oakdale Sportsmen's Club - Bob Curtis, Ken Schultz, Bill Blair and Neville Hugelmeyer, they landed a 296-pound blue shark that measured 9 feet, 11 inches.

Second prize of $1,000 was also taken by a member of the Oakdale Sportsmen's Club, Hans Hendrickson of the Equanil, who boated a 280-pound mako. Third place of $200.oo went to Charles Nappi of the Sea Witch, who landed a 259-pound mako. A total of 96 boats sailed from ports as far away as Pennsylvania, Boston and Delaware.

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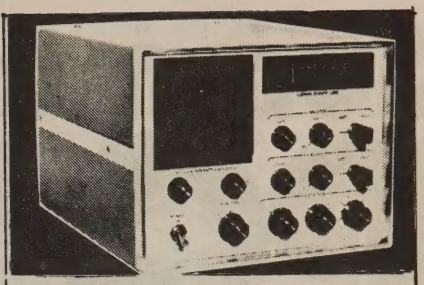

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Summer Favorite—PORGIES

by Vlad Evanoff

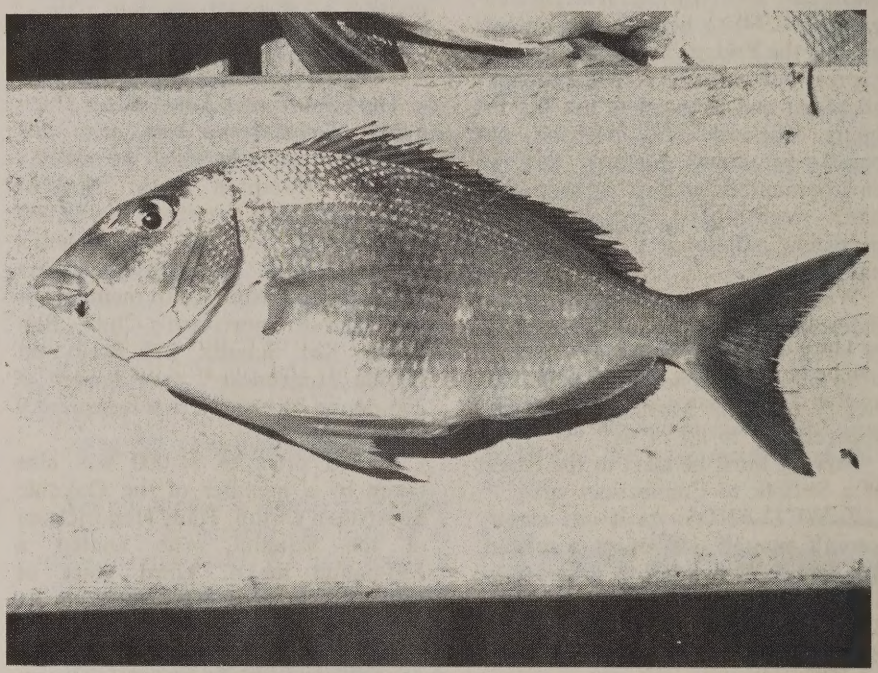
It was early July. My friend Harry and I rented a boat in Sheepshead Bay, attached the 10 horse motor to it and headed out past Rockaway Inlet toward Rockaway Point. Here we anchored in front of the big breakwater and rigged up for bottom fishing. We had brought along about three dozen big skimmer clams and baited the hooks with these.

It was still dark when we lowered our baited rigs to the bottom, but the sky was beginning to lighten in the east indicating that the sun would soon be rising. The sinker hit bottom and I waited a few seconds, raised it slowly, then let it drop back again. Almost immediately I felt some sharp raps, then a tug, and I set the hook. The fish put up a spirited battle, but was soon brought up to the surface where I saw that it was a big, sea porgy.

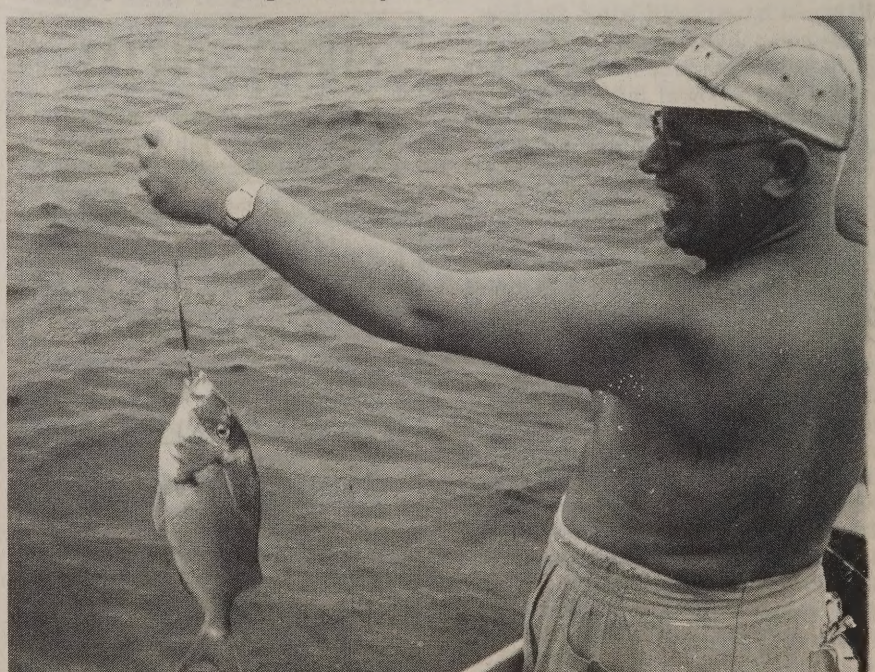
We continued fishing and the porgies obliged by biting better and faster as the day broke and the sun appeared above the horizon. In the meantime we had been joined by other boats and soon they were also into the action of hauling in the porgies. We continued to fish for another couple of hours; soon the bushel basket was full to the top with big porgies. We then quit and headed back to Sheepshead Bay and the City to do a day's work.

That's the great thing about porgy fishing. When these "panfish of the sea" are running in good numbers, you can catch all you need in a couple of hours and still go to work and not lose much time. And on many an occasion porgies saved the day when other fish, such as striped bass or bluefish, weren't around or not hitting.

Before this fishing in July took place at Breezy Point, we used to run out to Peconic Bay in May, and even during the years the weakfish were scarce we would load up with porgies. I liked this fishing because the early run of porgies in Peconic ran to a good size and these fish would put up a great



Porgies are summer favorites and crowd pleasers when caught from party boats, private boats, piers and jetties.



Porgies like this one will often hit a diamond jig worked up and down near the bottom.

scrap on the light spinning outfits we used in the shallow waters of the bay. In Peconic the porgies hit best on hooks baited with sandworms, but they also took the small grass shrimp which were used for chum.

By June, porgies appear offshore and are found over wrecks, mussel beds, rocky bottoms and shellfish beds. They also move inshore and can be caught over mussel beds, from piers, around breakwaters and from small boats not far from the beaches, inlets and in bays. The larger "sea" or "shad" porgies move right up close to shore into shallow water.

While light boat rods, bay rods and spinning rods can be used for these small porgies, or even when fishing for the bigger ones in shallow water or weak tides, for offshore fishing in deep water or strong currents and tides you often need a heavier boat rod. Here, sinkers up to 10 or 12 ounces may be needed to hold bottom in a rip or fast tide.

The regular "deep sea" bottom rig can be used for porgies with one or two hooks, one tied just above the sinker and the other high enough to clear the first hook. Numbers 1 or 2 hooks can be used for the smaller porgies, while No. 1/0 or 2/0 hooks are best for the bigger fish.

The most popular bait for porgies in the ocean is a small piece of skimmer clam. The tough tongue and stringy mantles are best because they are not so easily stolen from the hook. Porgies will also take small strips of squid, mussels, shrimp and other shellfish at times.

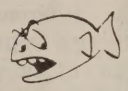
Porgies usually bite best when there is a good current running; you can "walk" your bait along the bottom away from the boat with the tide. This is done by lifting your rod, then dropping it back so that the sinker and rig is moved a few feet each time. The drop-back places the bait in new territory, and also gives it some movement which attracts the fish. Slack tides or very strong tides aren't as good for porgies.

You can also try drifting with your boat in wind or tide so that your rig drags along the bottom. This way you cover even more territory, since this method gives your bait some movement, and you will then usually wind up catching bigger porgies than when anchored. The only catch is that it can be done only in areas where porgies are spread out over a wide area.

Still another way you can catch porgies and have fun is by jigging with a diamond jig. For this type of fishing a light one-handed spinning outfit with an 8 lb. test line, and a jig weighing about ½ ounce to one ounce, is best. Just let the jig down to the bottom and then start working it up and down. If you foul-hook a big porgy in the back you'll have your hands full for a few minutes.

Porgies are not only scrappers but they also make fine eating. I like to fillet them if they are big, because in this way you get rid of most of the bones. But if you don't mind the bones you can cut them into steaks or pan fry a whole small porgy and enjoy the tender, juicy sweet meat of these salt water panfish.

POLLUTION NOTES:



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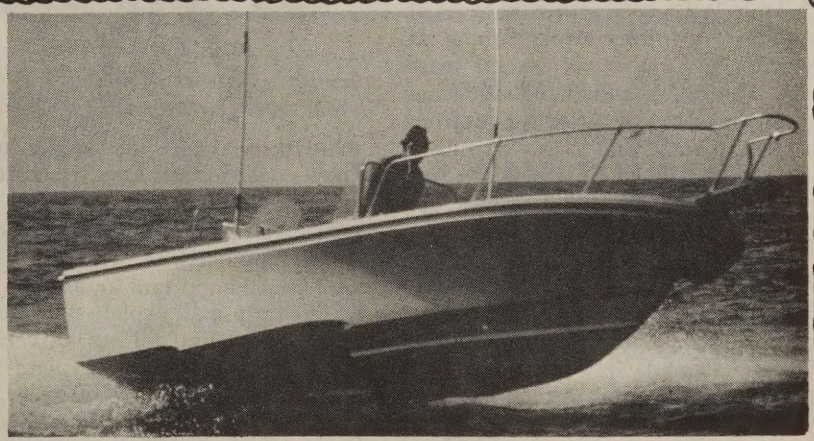

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Fly-Fishing Primer:

Part 3: Knots to Know

by Lou Tabory

Do not let faulty knots be the missing link between you and the fish you pursue.

More so than in other types of fishing, the world of the fly fisherman involves a constant round of decisions concerning which knots to use under various conditions.

The fly fisherman is called upon to tie many knots, all of which can make the difference between catching or losing a trophy fish. A poorly tied knot can cut the strength of your tippet in half. It can also slip and cause you to lose a fish or even your entire fly line.

Tying knots properly is as important as learning to cast properly. Not only is knot tying important to the fly fisherman, but to all fishermen everywhere.

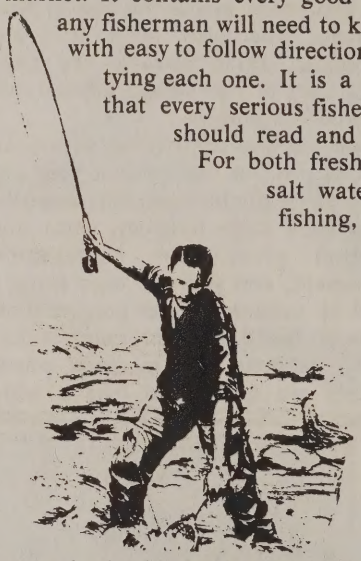
I once lost a good striper because of a poorly tied knot while fishing at Southport, Connecticut several years ago. There was a pod of large bass chasing alewives on a bar just out from a creek mouth, and I was casting a large, white, blond fly across the tide rip and letting it work out over the bar.

As I turned to talk to my fishing partner I felt my fly stop. I came back hard on thr rod and set the hook: a swirl the size of a washtub formed in the water about sixty feet away. The fish turned and started to run out to sea and the line went slack.

That sick feeling when you know you have lost a good fish is not half as bad as when you find out, as I did, that it was due to a faulty knot. The end of my leader looked like a pig tail, which meant my barrel knot had slipped. I vowed then to learn more about knots.

My real education in knots came three years ago when I met Lefty Kreh at a fly casting clinic. He explained to me that my knots were tied properly, but were not the right knots for the job. From this meeting came a lasting friendship which has made me a better fisherman.

Lefty is a real bug on knots and constantly stresses the importance of properly tying them. Recently, along with Mark Sosin, wrote a book entitled **Practical Fishing Knots**. This is the first book of its kind on the market. It contains every good knot any fisherman will need to know, with easy to follow directions for tying each one. It is a book that every serious fisherman should read and own. For both fresh and salt water fly fishing, there are



some basic knots the angler must know. The nail knot, improved clinch, Bimini twist, Albright, surgeon's, double surgeon's, Homer Rhode loop, haywire twist and blood knot are all important knots. To try to illustrate and explain how to tie each one would fill up this entire magazine, so I will just explain their uses. To learn HOW to tie them, two good sources are **Practical Fishing Knots** and **McClane's Standard Fishing Encyclopedia.**

In fly fishing, the first connection is made between the backing and the fly line. Backing on a fly reel should always be either Dacron or Micron because both have low stretch properties. To tie either one to the fly line use either a nail knot or an Albright knot. Both knots should be coated with Pliobond, or another rubber-type cement, because this prevents a large sharp-cornered knot from catching on the guides as it travels through them at high speeds. In addition, some fish can reach speeds of up to forty miles per hour. Any hesitation at this speed can snap 10 pound test line like thread.

Once the fly line is properly tied to the backing a monofilament leader must be tied to the foward end of the fly line. The nail knot is the best to use for this connection. The type of fishing you will be doing will determine what type of leader you will tie on.

A fresh water angler will want a tapered mono leader which he can either buy or make: either way, it works well and will do the job.

If you buy a tapered leader make sure that the butt section is 2/3 the diameter of your fly line. The way I make up a trout leader is to buy a good, tapered leader 7½ feet long, 2 to 4 pound test at the tip, and use a nail knot to connect it to the fly line. For fresh water bug fishing I would use a heavier tapered leader about 6 to 8 pound at the tip.

Tie a double surgeon's knot in the end. This gives you a neat little loop at the end of the leader. To this loop, a section of any light mono can be attached by simply tying a double surgeon's knot in a length of light mono and then interlocking the loops. See diagram. When this light section becomes too short, cut it off and replace it; by using this procedure the original butt section is never touched.

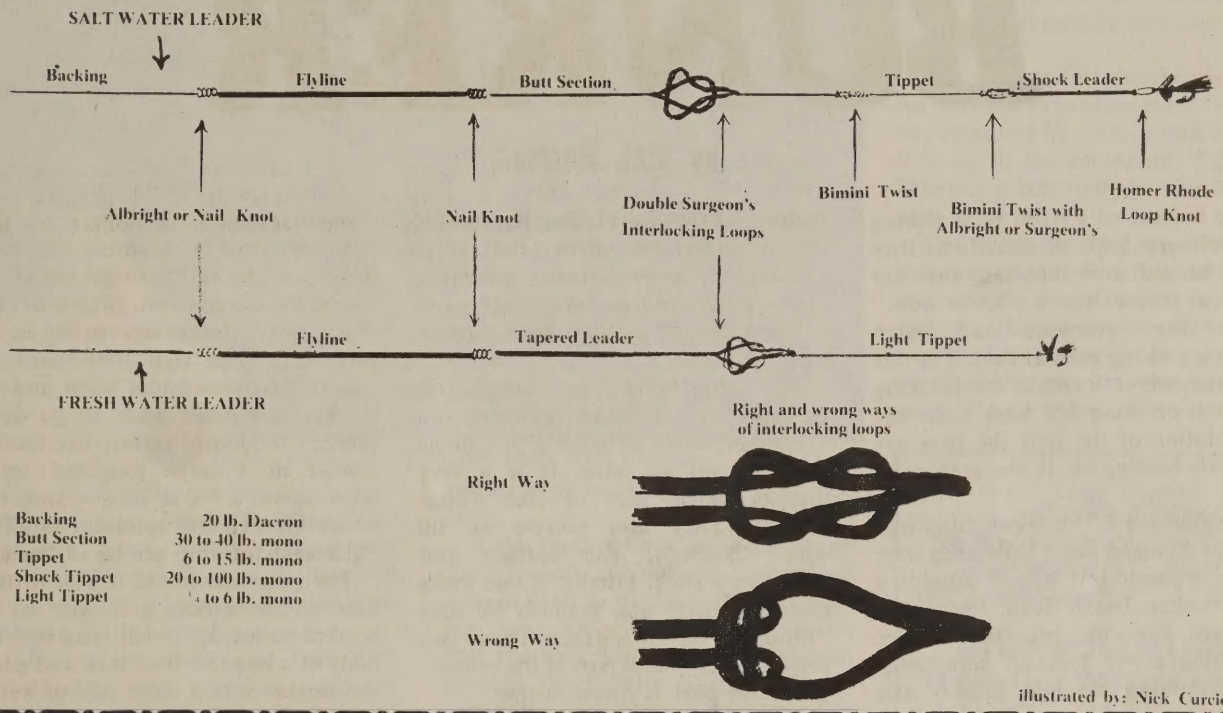
If a longer leader is required, the original butt section can be made with either a 9 or a 12-foot tapered leader.

To tie the fly to a light tippet, use an improved clinch knot. There are many other knots for this purpose but it is far better to learn one and stick with it.

For fishing in salt water the leader is a little different. A 4 to 6 foot piece of 30 to 40 pound test mono is nail knotted to the fly line. A double surgeon's is tied at the free end of this mono. This gives us our butt section loop.

Now, take a piece of light mono (6, 10, 12, and 15 pound test are the sizes to qualify for a salt water fly rodder's record) and tie a Bimini twist in it. Then tie a double surgeon's knot in the Bimini's loop and inter-lock the

Typical Fly Leaders for Fresh and Saltwater



Backing	20 lb. Dacron
Butt Section	30 to 40 lb. mono
Tippet	6 to 15 lb. mono
Shock Tippet	20 to 100 lb. mono
Light Tippet	¼ to 6 lb. mono

Right and wrong ways of interlocking loops

illustrated by: Nick Curcione

two loops. See diagram.

In salt water this is a great advantage because it gives you a quick-change system. Many salt water long rodders make up tippet to shock leaders before they go out fishing so that there is no time wasted. A school of salt water fish can appear and disappear in less time than it takes to tie a tippet, so one must be ready.

Fish that live in the brine always seem to have some means for cutting light tippets. Teeth, gill plates, fins and even scales make fine cutting edges for 6 to 15 pound test mono; this is where shock tippets come in handy. For any toothed fish wire is a must, either solid or braided. The other conditions can be dealt with by using heavy mono; 60 to 100 pound test.

Without the use of proper knots the action of a fly can be ruined by this heavy shock tippet. A fly tied tightly to ten inches of 100 pound mono has about as much action as a belly dancer in a suit of armor. The idea is to tie a knot that does not bind the fly, and for this purpose the Homer Rhode loop is useful. When the knot is completed the fly swings freely in a small loop, giving it full action.

The Rhode loop knot is used on heavy mono or plastic coated, braided wire. To put a free-swinging loop in solid wire a haywire twist is used. When tying either wire or heavy mono to the light tippet, a Bimini twist-Albright combination, or a Bimini-surgeon's combination is used. If no shock leader is used the fly can be tied to the tippet with an improved clinch knot.

Once proper knots are learned, and tied well, the angler will have more confidence in his tackle. He can apply more pressure to his fish with the knowledge that the tippet is close to its full breaking strength. With just a little time, the average angler can become a proficient knot tier.

The few hours spent on a winter's night learning to tie proper knots are really insignificant compared to the many years you might spend brooding over the faulty knot that cost you . . . **that fish of a lifetime!**

(Conclusion of series.)

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LIVE-LINING BUNKER

by Dick Mermon

The secrets of striped bass fishing are really not kept as secretly as they use to be, and even then they were not really a secret but a "know-how." These days everyone can catch stripers, and big ones at that. The one so-called secret formula for hooking into one of these big bass is in the presentation of the bait the bass are presently feeding on, in the area to be fished.

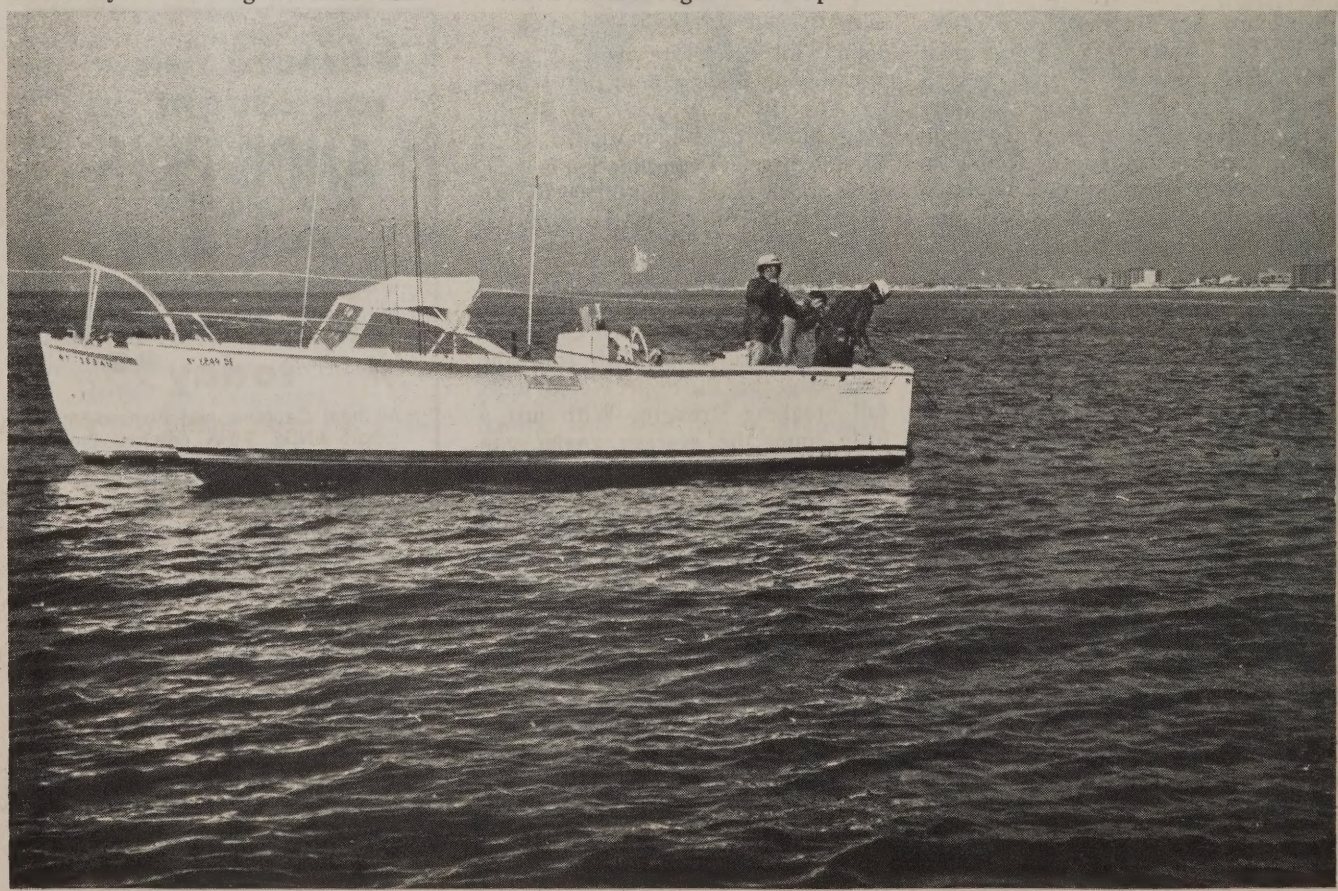
The fine art of "bunker dunking" has now changed just a little in its way. In the beginning, it was to present a dead bunker, (fresh dead, that is) to the bass. Now the big fuss is over swimming a live bunker: sometimes just swimming the bait blindly will connect you with a good sized fish. Placing the bunker into the beach wash area, near the tip of a rock jetty, or even into the pocket that is formed by the beach and the stones are some of the types of places where bunker can be fished.

The first problem, though, is locating the menhaden (bunker).

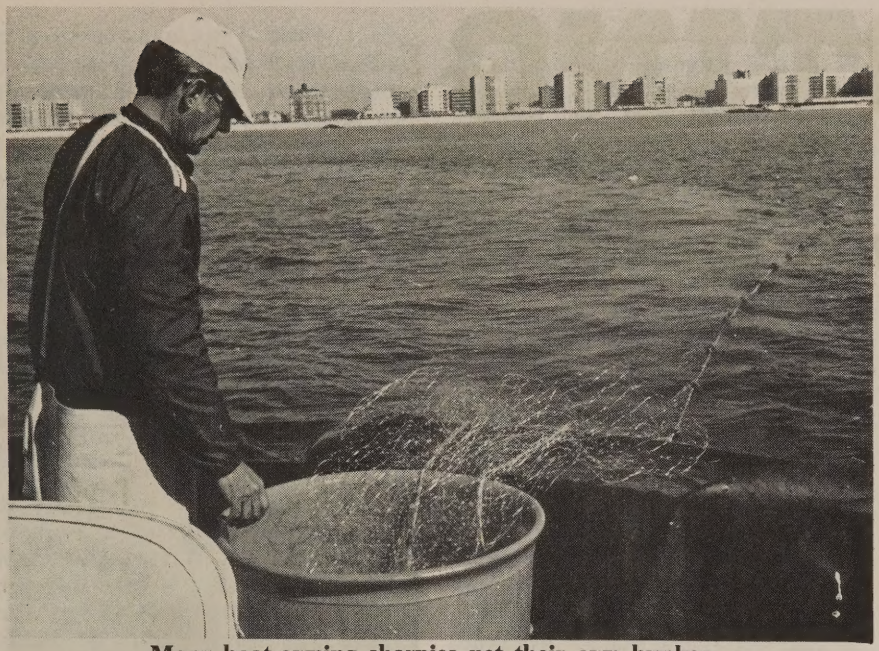
Bunker, when swimming in schools will give off an odor. It is a very distinct smell, sort of like watermelons. They also secrete an oil which floats to the surface and produces a slick. Finally, if one looks closely, bunker can actually be seen "flipping" on the surface. These fish are but a very small part of the school - the main part is down deeper.

When bunker begin to ball up and then spray out of the water, it is a sign that big bass or bluefish are after them, and are trying to get out of the way of the hungry fish. Nine times out of ten, when bunker start to flip on the surface, it is a sign that there are bigger fish down under them and the bunker just don't want to go down there. The tools of getting live bunker consist of a large weighted treble hook, about a 9/0 or 10/0 in size, tied to the line on a stiff spinning rod. This rig is cast into the school of bunker.

The weighted treble is jerked back hard on the retrieve and, with all the bunker balled up, it will snag into the body of a bunker. Reel it in and place the bunker into a large pail of water, such as a garbage pail, to be kept



Hauling in a full net can become a two or three man job.



Many boat-owning sharpies net their own bunker.

alive. This action is continued until enough bunker has been collected for bait. Watch out though, because every once in awhile a big bass or blue will come up from the depths and grab the snagged bait. (Tough to take!)

Most of the sharp bass fishermen have their own personal ways of obtaining bunker bait. Many boat owners have their own gill nets, and will find a school of bunker and set the nets out. Sometimes one set of the net will contain enough bait for the entire day, and at other times there will be but one or two bunker in 300 feet of netting.

Last-and the hardest-way of getting the bait is to beg some from the netters. Sometimes there is a commercial gill netter setting his net in your area and he will sell you some dead bunker. What you want are live menhaden, so you have to hang around until he pulls the net. Grubbing some from the other fellows is the last way possible, but don't get mad if they refuse; they, too, need them.

By hook or by crook you've gotten your bait. Hooking the live bunker is done in the same way as in dead bunker fishing, except that the double or treble hook used is placed into the upper part of the bunker's mouth. This gives the bait the opportunity to open and close its mouth and pass water through its gills while swimming. The other way is to hook the bunker just in back of the head and in front of the dorsal fin, not too deep into the back or it will kill the bait. Lower the live bunker into the water and let it swim along as the boat also drifts.

If the bunker does not want to go down towards the bottom, then attach a small drail to the line; this will slow him down and sink him. The reason that the bait does not want to swim towards the bottom is that there is something down there waiting and I'm sure you wouldn't want to go into a lion's den in the dark, or even in the light, for that matter.

When a bass takes the bunker bait, he engulfs the entire fish. The word for the hit is "run off," because that is just what it is. The line will run off the reel, which should be in a free spool at this time.

The amount of time that is needed for the bass to swallow the bait cannot be calculated by some simple formula: it is up to the individual fisherman. When it is felt that the time is right, sock it to 'em.

Live lining bunker, or any other live bait, is a great feeling. Especially when you actually feel the bait come alive and go like heck before the initial run-off. Live lining is simple; finding the spot for the live bunker is the thing. "Aye, there's the rub."

STOP POLLUTION!
Keep Our Waters Clean,

SHOOTING SHARKS

by Capt. George Glas

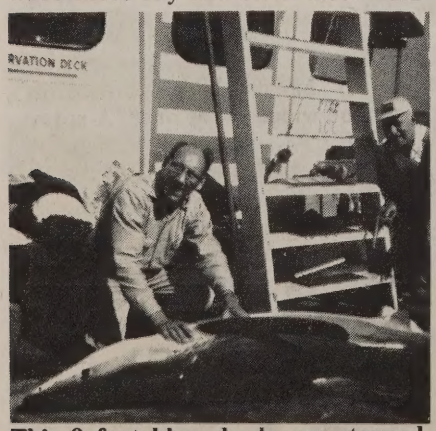
Sharks provide great sport for the offshore game fisherman, but to the party boat angler they are unwelcome visitors. Blue sharks especially are free-loaders who swipe codfish whole, or in chunks, before the fisherman can land his catch.

Not only do they make a mess of everyone's lines and demolish tackle, but they also spook the fish. Over the years, we have found that the best way to get rid of these marauders is to shoot them.

Each captain has his own pet weapon for shooting sharks. I use a .38 Special revolver, while my son, Capt. Brad, prefer s sawed-off shotgun which has a 20 inch barrel for compactness. (Minimum legal length of shotgun barrels is 18 inches.)

Both the revolver and shotgun are chrome plated, not for looks but for protection against the salt water and salt atmosphere. A blued finish just doesn't stand up aboard a boat, but having a gun chrome plated is an additional expense over its original cost that can make the total tab quite high.

However, there is another way to protect a gun for use aboard a boat. Paint it. That's right, paint it! First, clean off all oil and grease from the outside of the gun. Then, wipe it down with a clean rag that has been saturated with lacquer thinner. This will remove any film of oil that would prevent the paint from adhering to the steel.



This 9 foot blue shark was stopped cold with one well placed shot from a .38 special.

Get a can of flat black and a can of gloss black spray paint. The flat black serves as an undercoater, affording a good base for the gloss coat. Be sure that no paint gets into the action or any moving parts. These areas of the gun will have to be protected in the usual way, with gun oil.

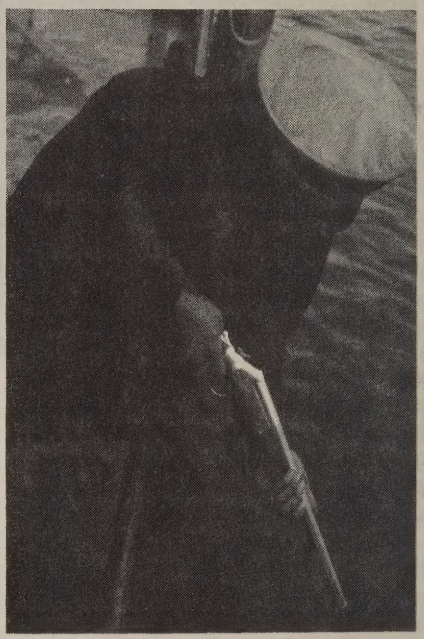
Don't try to cover the steel with one heavy coat of paint; several light coats are better. Let the base coat dry for about a half hour before applying the gloss coat. Again, build up the finish with several light coats rather than one heavy coat. A finish of this type not only looks good, but it really stands up better than the original bluing.

Whether a shotgun, loaded with a deer slug, or a hand gun is used to dispatch a big shark, one shot in the proper place will do the job. The spot to shoot for is right in the center of the shark's head, just behind the eyes. The critter must be on the surface if the shot is to be effective, for even if he is only a foot below, you won't do the number on him. The water not only absorbs the power of the shot, but it also deflects the bullet.

Over 15 years of fishing Cox's Ledge during the summer, I have shot many sharks; too many to count. A few of the encounters remain quite vivid in my mind.

One large blue shark was cruising around the boat and grabbing one fish after another, his appetite so voracious that he even gobbled up an empty beer can that floated into his view. The mate and I watched the action, waiting for the right opportunity, which came quickly as one fisherman, who had been reeling in a hefty cod, lurched backward when his line suddenly went slack. All those potential codfish steaks were now in the shark's belly, and the angler was left with the head.

Figuring that the shark might still be interested in the remaining head, the mate took over the rod and expertly teased the big blue to the surface. When that head full of teeth



This is the position used when shooting a shark. Note how handy this gun is with a short barrel.

came out of the water to grab the bait, I let go with a shot from the .38.

The shark went down immediately, then reappeared about 50 feet from the boat, steamed off over the surface for about 100 yards, breached straight up out of the water and landed with a splash, belly up.

On another occasion, the anglers were losing their fish about half way up from the bottom. This time, the shark was working deep and we could not see it.

We always have a shark line ready for such a situation. Shark lines, in this instance, are a no-nonsense affair, consisting of a hook as large as our gaff-hooks, a 3 foot length of chain, and about 50 feet of 3/8 inch nylon line.

The mate baited the hook with a whole conger eel, letting it sink to the level at which the shark was working. He secured the line to the stern bitt and not two minutes went by before it started to sheer left and right through the water.

That was the sign we were waiting for: Mr. Shark was hooked. The mate

proceeded to haul him in slowly, ready to let go of the line if the beast decided to make a run. The shark made several lunges before he could be worked to the surface, and when I shot it, the great fish rolled over and lay still, a sure sign that the bullet had hit its mark. When we released the now-defunct shark, it sank to the bottom.

Fishing resumed, and the cod were now coming up whole. About a half hour later, however, one of the anglers in the stern yelled that he was into a big fish. He had a terrific struggle going there, and when he finally fought his catch to the surface, he discovered he had a 25 pound cod on one hook, and the dead shark foul-hooked on the other. The weight of the shark plus the action of the cod had provided the angler with the thrill of a lifetime. He thought he was bringing up the grandaddy of all codfishes!

Often, when we have an encounter with one of these demons, there is an excited, wide-eyed youngster aboard who watches the proceedings as though glued to a TV screen. I usually tell the budding angler that if he stands by quietly, I'll reward him with a "shark whistle." The shark whistle, of course, is the empty cartridge case of the expended .38, and by blowing across the open end a high pitched sound can be produced. Kids have a very special set of values, and a cartridge case that has been part of the shot that killed a big shark is a true treasure to be taken home and displayed with pride.

Time was, aboard both the HELEN II and the HEL-CAT, that we didn't bother to bring in the sharks we shot, instead releasing them from the hook so that they could serve as food for other creatures of the deep. However, we found that many of our fares wanted shark steaks to eat, others wanted the jaws, teeth, or fins as souvenirs. We now bring them back in and the anglers can help themselves to whatever parts they want.

As the New York State Hunter Safety Instructor for the Montauk area, and also as a Certified N.R.A. Rifle and Pistol Instructor, allow me to offer a few suggestions for those who might have their own boats and are thinking about shooting sharks.

This cod still weighed 40 pounds after having been attacked twice by a shark. "What a way to lose weight."

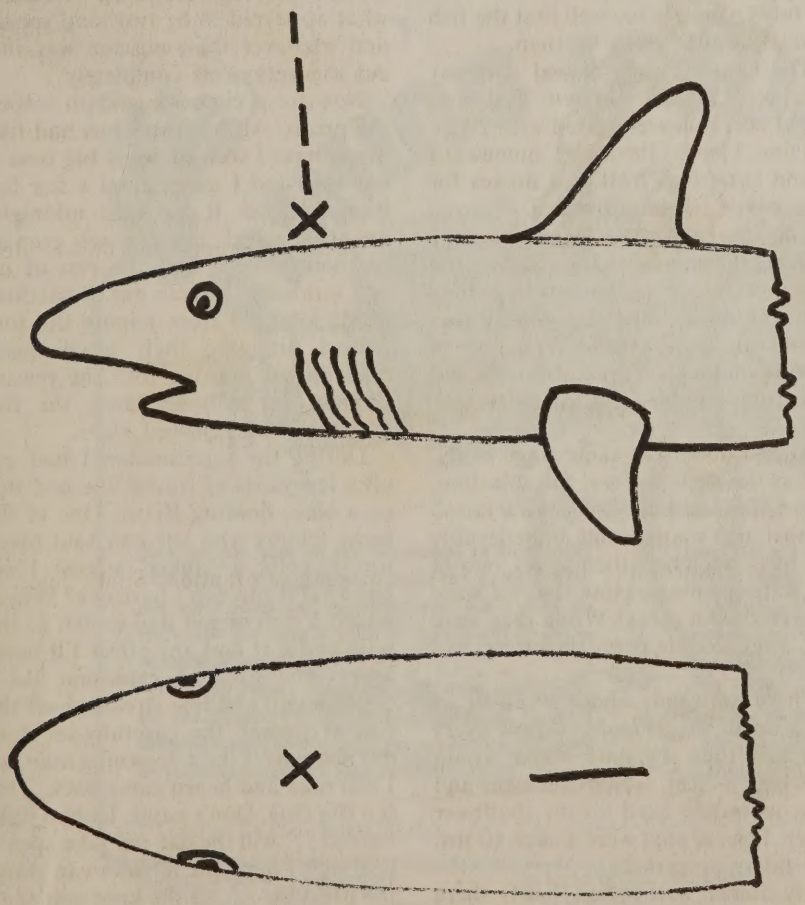
If you carry any weapon aboard your boat, don't load it until you are ready to use it.

If you have two or more guns aboard, and they are not of the same caliber, be sure that the right shells are loaded into the gun being used. Many shells look alike, and some might even fit into a gun for which they are not intended. Firing a gun with the wrong size shell can be dangerous as the gun can blow up, injuring the shooter or persons near by.

Do not permit the use of more than one gun at a time.

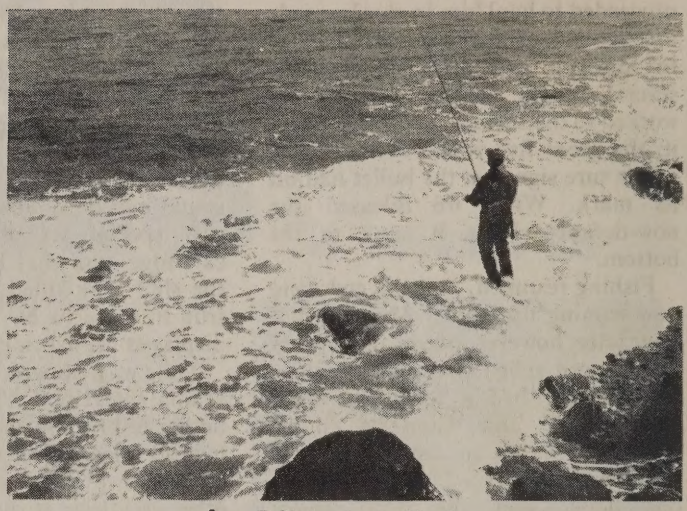
To keep a shark gun in good working condition, it is necessary that any water that has been splashed on the gun be wiped off at once. A spray can of IT, CRC, or any of the popular rust inhibitors should be kept handy for this purpose.

A few further words of caution. It is very dangerous to try to shoot a fish, shark or otherwise, while it is below the surface as there is a distinct possibility of the bullet ricocheting off the surface of the water. The direction of a ricochet is unpredictable. Also, be certain that the area around your vessel is clear of other boats before firing. Remember, SAFETY FIRST. Don't take chances!



X marks the spot to aim, when shooting a shark.

Three Nights in July



by Edward J. Haring

It took a long time for summer to arrive last year but when it did in mid-July it came in with a vengence. The hot, humid weather soon made us forget the endless rains and cool weather that had preceeded it.

After a few days the waters began to warm up and those who watched the currents and tides on the inlet side of Robert Moses State Park began to take weakfish fairly consistently. The best time seemed to be from sunset to darkness and beyond. A wide variety of small lures and very light tackle provided good sport and tasty meals.

After about a week of this, the blues and bass also found the schools of shiners. Their forays within casting range provided some good, even if inconsistent, sport; some nice specimens of each were taken. Then the plague of the inlet moved in . . . seaweed. After watching the rafts of slimey, green stuff gliding by for a few nights while the gnats and mosquitoes greedily drank cocktails made up of my blood and insect repellant, it was time to do some exploring.

Sunken Meadow seemed to be dead. The back bar at West End provided some fair-sized weaks, but the action was on the slow side. At dusk I could see something was scaring the shiners but whatever caused the commotion had no interest in the lures tossed to them. Finally, an almost weightless Goldfish spoon was seized by a tinker mackerel.

As the full moon rose the silhouettes of a few casters waist deep in the water appeared. A reel squealed in protest as line was pulled against its drag. Now came a sound not unlike cards being dealt out by a professional. I scrambled down the broken, steel reinforced concrete, was waist deep and had my small, yellow darter clipped on last year's 10 lb. mono. It took no more than three casts before my fresh water rod bent double and the dark water was whipped into a luminescent explosion. The Mitchell 300 growled stubbornly, but it was no contest: gone was the fish, the plug and all but a few yards of line. Like General MacArthur I vowed to return . . . but knew only too well that the fish could be miles away by then.

The next evening, armed with my nine foot Garcia Golden Rod and brand new surf reel loaded with 20 lb. test line, I joined the heavy, homeward bound suburban traffic. It makes for slow moving from Brooklyn.

The terns screamed in protest as I passed their nesting grounds, the skimmers made a few strafing runs past my head and the mosquitoes moved in for the kill. This time a coating of Vick's Vapor Rub repelled them; the trouble is it repels people, too.

At just about the same stage o' the tide as the night before, the splashing began. Frantic bait fish beat a tattoo against my waders and unbelievably big bass launched themselves out of the water, some so close that we were showered with spray! While they were on a wild feeding orgy, they were also selective.

There were only about seven of us lined up in the moonlight, and every now and then the dark water would explode, a reel would screech and someone would head for the shallower water. Few, if any, were under 10 lbs. and many topped 20.

My Rebel was belted hard, there was a brief tassle and the hook was thrown. A short while later I tried a big Atom swimmer, painted over to look like a mackerel. It hardly touched the water before it was being carried off to the horizon, then the line went limp - the fish and the Atom were gone! A jointed Herter plug was the next casualty: a smash! and only the foward portion remained. Before the lure could be changed, a boat with two intensely bright headlights cruised along a few feet from us. It carried what appeared to be two long spears, and whatever their mission was they cut the action off completely.

Now for a cigarette and to inspect the prizes. All but two of us had fish. Never have I seen so many big bass in one spot and I understand a few had been released. It was past midnight, my arms ached, my stomach growled for nourishment and the rest of me just wanted to stretch out. Something inside kept me from joining the four fellows dragging their heavy loads back to the parking lot. The reward came a few minutes later; the fish returned with renewed vigor.

During the intermission I had cut off a few yards of frayed line and tied on a blue, floating Rebel. One of the lucky fellows who left had said black was the color, a "sinker" a must. Fine, but what if you don't have one? Why, I added a dab of red nail polish to the nose and if it had any effect I'll never know. There was an explosion like a depth bomb and line streamed off the reel as though the carefully-set drag did not exist. Like a drowning man, all I had read and heard came back. This is a Big One. Don't panic, let him fight the rod . . . will the old rod take such a beating? I hope the ferrules can stand the pressure . . . let the knot and snap hold . . . the line is getting low . . . follow him but watch out for those rocks on the bottom . . . he's slowing

down . . . now try to regain some line . . . ease off another run . . . now pump . . . wind . . . the flurries are not as strong but the tide and weight are something else!

Just when the feeling of victory is on me I see one of the other fellows a few feet away with his rod bent in the same general direction. Are our lines crossed? Are we fighting the same fish? For a few tense seconds we grunt to one another, then the fish change positions and, standing less than a dozen feet apart, we drag in two monsters. His proved to be a shade over 22 lbs. and mine hit 48 on his hand scale. Six hours later it was weighed officially at 43 lbs. I never saw a bass that large before or since.

Before I go further, I never saw either of these two young men before or after, but what sportsmen they were! Bruce insisted on carrying the monster, fearing it might give me a heart attack, and Al drove his van to the parking lot. Both packed the fish in plastic rubbish bags and stowed it in my VW. They were as happy over my fish as I was over their achievements. Bruce caught his first striper and Al his biggest. Thanks again, fellows!

Three nights later I was back, and so was a small army. I sat on a rock and watched them fade away as the night breezes and mosquitoes took their toll. All but three were gone when the tide reached the right stage and the splashing began. It only took five casts to hook into another cow that fought just as gallantly as the first. It weighed in at 38½ lbs.: that was enough for me. Dragging that bass back to the lot made Bruce and Al's help on the other night doubly appreciated.

For these three nights, at least, I can say that the age-old theory of a fishermen's light scaring the fish was proven 100% wrong. I was horrified to see the fellow next to me switch on his headlight to change lures, not even turning his back to the action! Others did the same thing. Cigarettes were lighted, but still the bass thrashed about a few feet away! It could be that neither the fish nor the anglers read the same books as I. Could it be that the experts that all but tossed me into the sea at Race Point for using a light to unhook a dogfish were affected by the moonbeams? That was long ago on my first surf expedition but I have ever since abided to that rule . . . now I wonder.

Since writing the foregoing I paid a visit to West End and the area of the Big Blitz. With all the dredging equipment masses there, plus an oil spill, I'm very doubtful on history repeating itself. Could it be Democrat Point, Cedar Beach? I wish I knew.

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Weakfish, Weakfish, Everywhere

by Don Vetter

The misty morning air foretold another humid summer's day. At this early hour, with the rest of the world still sleeping, the dense gray haze lay upon land and water alike, awaiting the sun's warmth to burn it off.

A heavy dew covered my little craft as I set out through the tortuous maze of canals. Scents of fuel, from the moored boats I was passing, mingled with the indescribable aroma of low tide and the tang of salt ait in that unique combination so familiar to the salt water fisherman.

After artfully dodging the inevitable flotsam of the backwaters, with only some perched herring gulls and a tern or two for an audience, it was a relief to enter open water at last. I opened the throttle and the "Westwind" rose rapidly to a plane as the tachometer unwound to a full 5800 R.P.M. With the 50 horsepower outboard purring along smothly, and the two one-handed fresh water spinning rigs pointing aft at a jaunty angle from the stern rod-holders, I was finally underway to a day's fishing.

With no natural bait aboard (depending on how natural you consider a jar of pork rind), I had ventured forth, depending on a box full of assorted bucktails, plugs and hardware to produce results. Since I intended to confine my fishing to the bay, not outside the inlet, the logical question to arise would be "what is he going to fish for?" Targets of opportunity would be my answer; school stripers, harbor blues, weaks, even fluke. What I caught, as any dedicated inshore lure-slinger of today could tell you, were weakfish.

Not so very long ago, a weakfishing expedition meant a long ride out to the Peconics (unless you were fortunate enough to live right in that vicinity), with rather uncertain prospects for success; porgies and kingfish made up the bulk of your catch, more often than not, and that high hook, with its tempting strip of squid, received but little attention from what few squeteague were around.

The weaks averaged around a pound and a half, and a four pounder was cause for celebration. Though the Peconic Bay region is still THE weakfishing grounds, the fish have spread throughout the Island's waters, in ever increasing sizes and numbers. Seven and eight pound fish, though far from common, raise few eyebrows, and the average fish taken is now in the three to five pound class.

First the weaks began to make their presence felt in Great South Bay, and buoys 4 and 5 off Heckscher Park and, together with Dickerson's and Snake Hill Channels and the Ocean Beach area of Fire Island, began to play host once more to a species that had all but faded to a memory.

From here they spread westward, through the State Channel, and Reynold's, and into adjacent creeks. Jamaica Bay became as much of a weakfish haunt as the waters off Southold.

Nowadays, weaks are taken by bass fishermen in the surf, by trolling off the beaches; even accidentally by flounder fishermen, and on both north and south shores. A new breed of weakfisherman has arisen to meet the challenge of the great resurgence of this fine game fish. Though the old methods of deep-drifting with squid strip or worm, or chumming at anchor with grass shrimp (or some substitute) probably produce as well as they did before the fish went away, there is no need to limit yourself to your dad's techniques, in this day of spin fishing.

A medium action, one-handed grip spin rod, with matching reel filled with 6 to 8 pound test mono, will allow you the maximum sport with weaks. The willingness of the weakfish to take a wide variety of lures renders bait fishing for them unnecessary in many cases.

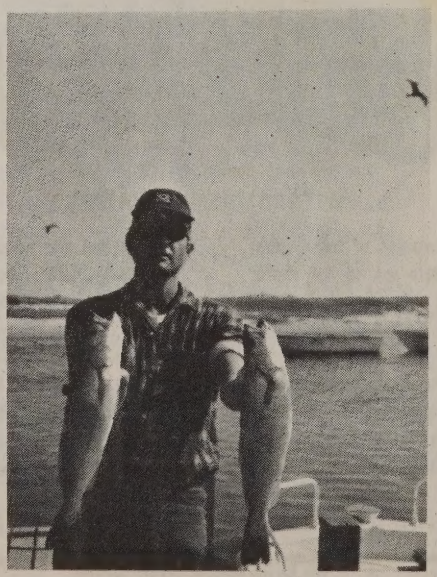
The things you must know are what lures to use, how to work them, and when and where to look for the weaks.

The plastic artificial chrimp (Bagley, Lupo, Boone's, etc.), is of Florida origin, where they have been used for years on that subspecies, the spotted weakfish ("speckled trout," as the natives call them), and there is no denying they are murder on our own northern weakfish, whose favorite food (given the choice) is indeed shrimp.

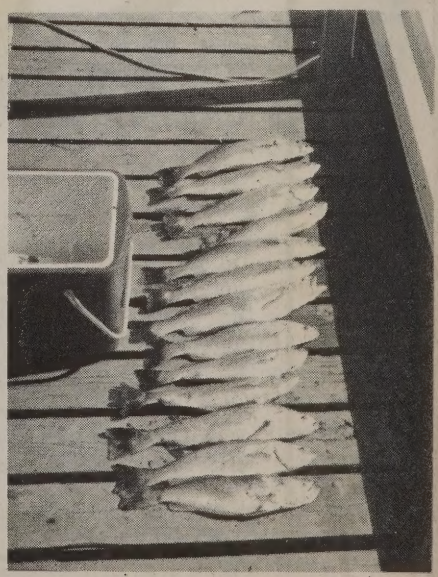
They are best worked when cast out and allowed to settle to the bottom, then retrieved in a series of slow, short jerks. The old bucktail jigs work too, when fished in a similar manner. One additional advantage to these lures is that they work equally well in deep or shallow water.

In fishing the shallows (15 feet or less), plugs and some spoons will turn

Continued on page 20



The author thrusts a brace of nice weakfish towards the camera.



A "baker's dozen" of weakfish drying in the sun.

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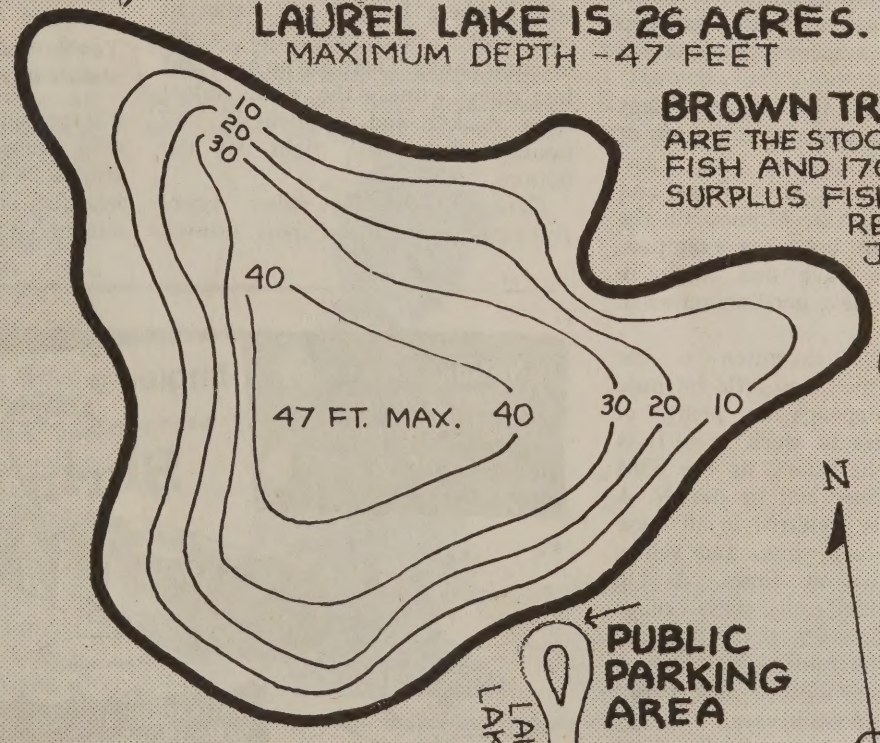

BROWN TROUT

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LAUREL LAKE, IN THE TOWN OF THE SAME NAME, IS ADJACENT TO MATTITUCK.

WEAKFISH WEAKFISH

Continued from page 18

the trick, if you learn how to use them. The secret is to use the slowest possible retrieve which will bring out the lure's action. This would seem to eliminate such hardware as the Kastmaster and Hopkins, which require a rather fast retrieve to bring out their best action. Such is not the case however, as they may be jigged in the same manner as the plastic shrimp, often with the addition of a strip of pork rind or (ugh) squid to add appeal. Many fishermen make a like addition to their bucktail or artificial shrimp, for the same reason.

Whether these "dressed" lures do have more fish-appeal is a moot point (the sea robins certainly appreciate them); I have never found much difference in the productivity of the unadorned lure. Perhaps that baitstrip acts more as a security blanket for many anglers.

There is an infinite variety of plugs that will work well for weaks, many of them intended for fresh water bass. The Rebel, Rapala, River Runt, and the old jointed Pikie Minnow (in the smaller size) are but a few examples, and they all have one thing in common: they have good action when fished slowly.

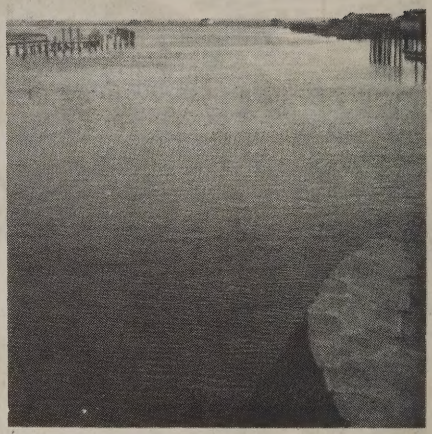
One notable exception is the Mirrorlure, which has little intrinsic action and depends on plenty of rod-tip twitches to work well. It is often worth the effort, as the 58M model Mirrorlure can be deadly. A silvery finish is preferred in all these plugs, with blue, white, and yellow also productive at times. A big advantage which all these plugs possess is the fact that they are equipped with treble hooks, which hold the weak-mouthed fish better than any single hook can.

Among the spoons, only those thin-bladed enough to work well on a low speed retrieve will really produce. The Johnson Sprite and Al's Goldfish are two which fill this order. Spoons (and often plugs as well) sometimes achieve their best results when fluttered in place by twitching the rod-tip, rather than given a straight retrieve.

Weaks will often hit a lure as it settles into the water, before a retrieve of any kind is begun. Holding onto a hooked fish, particularly a big "tide runner," is often the most difficult part of the game, but should not present any insurmountable problem, with light tackle and a properly set dag. When the fish surges give way to him, as a weak is definitely not to be horsed. Needless to say, a net should be within reach when you bring the fish to pier or boatside.

As with stripers, the most productive times to fish (particularly in the shallows) are early morning, late evening, and often at night. In deeper waters time of day is less important, with some of the best fishing occurring in broad daylight. Tide is a factor; moving water is essential for good action. An incoming tide, approaching the high, is often best, but there are times when the outgoing is equally good; only slack water seems to slow down the action. In looking for potential hotspots, the advice of someone familiar with the area is a great help, but lacking this, look for channels that provide good current, eddies where baitfish are liable to congregate, tide rips and along meadow banks. There are no hard and fast rules; witness the weaks taken from docks, and accidentally, by flounder fishermen, right off the bottom.

Gone are the days when weakfishermen were a breed apart, seeking a scarce quarry in a few secret spots, with often little to show for their efforts. When anyone asks where the weakfish are these days, you can answer - just about everywhere!



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Chumming for Bluefish

by Ron Onorato

The affects of sitting too close to the chum can were beginning to show on me. The pleasant smell of the ground bunker, coupled with the rolling seas, was about to knock me out of commission.

Just as I was about to retire to the rail, my line straightened out and line melted from the spool. I quickly engaged the reel, which was in free spool, and soon had a nice bluefish dancing at the end of my line. All illness on my behalf soon disappeared, and within minutes I had a 10 pound blue on the deck.

George Zola, the skipper of our expedition, was similarly engaged in fighting a blue, as was the other member of our party, Pete Latgo. The chumming and the gaffing were relegated to Mike Scarola.

We had been chumming for about a half hour without any hits. Then, like an invasion, the blues swarmed into our chum slick. There was no mention of sea sickness when all hands were busy fighting blues.

We had departed from Deb's Inlet and had steered due South for about half an hour. Since we left at dawn, we expected to find blues on top and hoped to get a shot at them with plugs. They failed to show, however, and we had to rely on the Ross recorder to show us where the fish were.

Last reports had indicated that the fish were about 8 miles south of the inlet, so when we approached the area, the recorder was flicked on. In short order, the tell-tale markings of bluefish appeared. We decided to start chumming at that spot.

The recorder did not lie to us; we had landed over a school of nice fish. It took them a little while to respond to the chum but when they did, action was furious. At the end of the day we counted close to 50 blues, to 15 pounds, in the box. The party boats that were in the vicinity also did quite well.

Chumming has become one of the most popular ways to fish for bluefish on the South shore of Long Island. When the run is on, thousands of gallons of bunker chum are dumped into the ocean in an effort to lure the fish close to the boat, where they will then hit a baited hook. As with any type of fishing, chumming requires certain specialization, but once mastered, chumming is a relatively easy way to nail blues.

Chumming is most widely practiced by the party boats, but a great many small boats indulge in the art. On party boats, the chumming is done by the mates. In a small boat, the chumming is done by you or (hopefully) some other member of your party.

George Zola ladles the bunker chum into an even slick.

The most popular type of chum used is ground mossbunker. It is readily available at most tackle stores and bait shops when the bluefish run is on. Although some fellows get the bunker whole and grind it up in a meat grinder themselves, it is a lot easier to buy it from a bait dealer. A can of chum will go for 4 or 5 dollars.

If you plan to go fishing the same day, then go to a place that sells the chum in an unfrozen state; many dealers handle only frozen chum. If you can't get a can of soft chum, then ask the dealer to leave the can or cans out overnight. By morning, the bunker will be soft and ready for use.

The one item that is indispensable on any chumming trip is a ladle. The ladle is used to dump the chum over the side of the boat, and the best way to make one is to get an empty tuna fish can and screw it to a long stick.

The actual technique of chumming is rather simple. Take the can of chum and add a little sea water to it. Stir the chum and you will have a mixture that is a semi-liquid which is commonly referred to as "soup." As the can of chum is slowly emptied, you should keep the consistency the same by adding more sea water.

When you first arrive on the bluefish grounds, it is advisable to chum on the heavy side for the first few minutes. Once the slick is established, reduce the chumming. Simply take a ladleful of chum and dump it over the side; wait a few seconds and dump another glop. Keep repeating this process through the duration of the day's fishing.

Keep chumming steadily even when you're fighting a fish; a ladleful of

chum every few seconds will establish an even, consistent slick which should be maintained.

If you chum in the manner described, the average can of chum will last about 2½ or 3 hours, depending on how much water you add to it. If you plan to fish for a half of day or so, then two cans of chum will hold you. A whole day's fishing will require about three cans of chum.

The tricky part of chumming is drifting your bait naturally in the slick. The bait most commonly used is either cut butterfish or whole smelts. Chunks of mackerel or mossbunker can also be used.

The most popular type of hooks are the claw or the O'Shaughnessy patterns. If the blues are small (3 or 4 pounds) then you can use sizes 2/0 or 3/0. If you run into slammers of 8 and 10 pounds, then hook size of 5/0 or 6/0 is preferred. Since bluefish have a set of dentures that will shear monofilament with ease, a short trace of wire leader is added to the hook.

You will put each type of bait on in a different manner. If you are using a whole smelt, put the hook through the eye and then again through the shoulder. With a chunk of bunker or mackerel, run the hook through the flesh several times. A piece of cut butterfish is put on the hook in a similar manner.

Now that you are all baited up, you're ready to fish. Since you will be drifting, place your baited hooks on the side of the boat which is opposite the direction of the drift. In other words, the line should move away from the boat, not under it. Strip about twenty five feet of line off the reel and let the bait drift naturally. When you feel the line come taut, strip off a little more line.

The bait should be kept moving along with the chum - at all times. Keep stripping line until it again comes taut. Repeat this process until you hit a fish.

At times it may be necessary to let out a hundred feet of line before you get a fish. If you have a lot of line out, and still don't get a hit, bring it in and start the drift over again. The important thing to remember is to keep the bait moving along in a manner similar to that of the chum.

A hit may come at any time during the drift. A blue will pick up the bait, thinking it is part of the chum, and run while swallowing it. As soon as you feel a hit, let the fish run for a second or two before putting the reel into gear. If you hit as soon as you feel the run-off, then you may pull the bait out of the fish's mouth.

The tackle used for chumming will depend on what type of boat you are fishing from. If you go on a crowded party boat, for the sake of the other people you should keep the tackle on the heavy side. A stout boat rod with a matching reel of 30 or 40 pound test line is necessary.

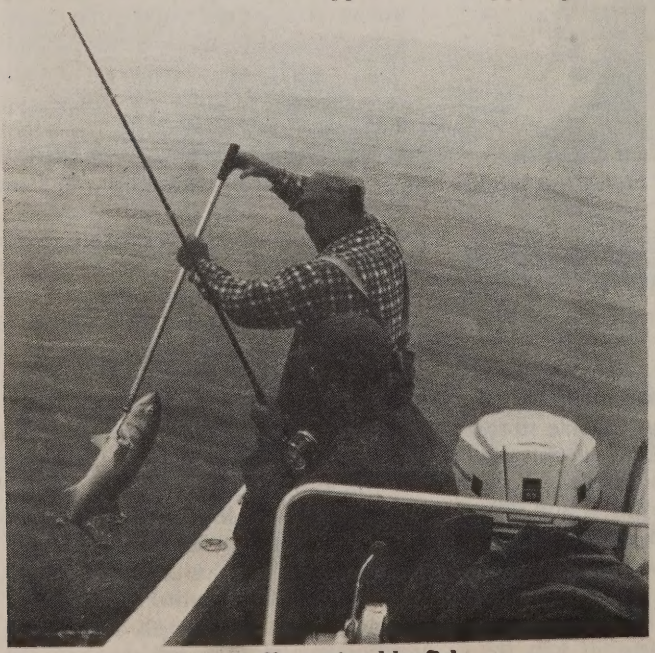
If you are fishing from a private boat, then there are no limitations on the tackle you can use. I prefer a whippy, light action boat rod with 15 pound test line. This rig is light enough to enjoy the fight of a blue, and yet strong enough to handle a big fish. I tend to shy away from spinning gear, since I do not have the control over the bait that I do with conventional gear.

If there is a strong wind or current it may become necessary to add a few clinch sinkers to the line, about three feet above the hook, in order to get the bait down. Only by experimenting will you determine what to use. If you have some whole fish such as bunker or mackerel, cut them up into chunks and add them to the chum. Several boxes of spearing added to the chum further enhances it. I always like to add a little of the bait I have on the hook to the chum.

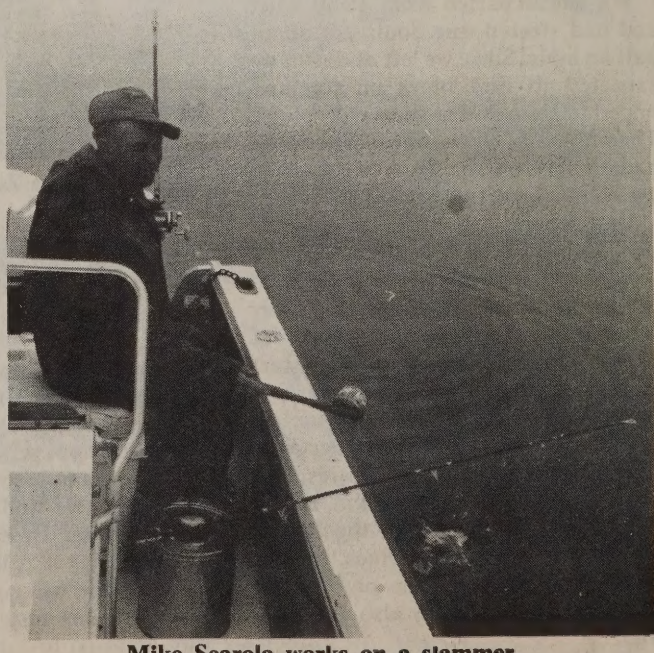
Finding a spot to chum for bluefish is relatively easy. If you have a fish recorder, look for the markings ("blips"). Another method is to look for the party boats, and then fish near them. You can also begin by trolling a lure, and start chumming after you hit a fish. However you find your fish, just remember to give the other boats that are chumming plenty of room. The ocean is big; don't crowd anybody.

Although chumming is messy at times, it is exciting fishing with action fast and furious. Chumming is done both night and day with remarkable results.

Sheepshead Bay, Freeport, and Captree all offer party boat fishing for blues. Whether you fish from a private boat or party boat, you will agree that chumming is a fun way to catch them.



Zola gaffs a nice bluefish.



Mike Scarola works on a slammer.

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Fast Twin Diesels — Fully Equipped
ALL TACKLE SUPPLIED

SPECIALIZING IN BIG BASS-BLUES-GIANT TUNA-MARLIN-SHARKS

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(516) 668-3062 Tuma's Dock, Montauk

VIKING SKIPPER

OF MONTAUK
Fishing Block Island Year Round
COD · POLLACK · SNOWSHOES
SAILS FROM SHAY'S DOCK
6 AM Daily 5 AM Sat., Sun. & Hol.
Capt. Bud Dorman [516]668-2720

TUMA'S

DOCK & TACKLE SHOP

OPEN & CHARTER BOATS
RESERVATIONS FOR CHARTER & SPLIT CHARTER
TACKLE • BAIT
Montauk, N.Y. (516) 668-2490

FLUKE FISHING EVERYDAY 7:30AM
(EXCEPT MON. & THURS.)

JIGGER III

SALIVARS DOCK MONTAUK, N.Y.
Capt. Howie Carroll – [516] 668-2214

MONTAUK

IN MONTAUK IT'S THE
EASY RIDER
Inshore & Offshore SPORTFISHING
NOW BOOKING FOR 1973 SEASON
Up to 6 Passengers
CAPT. JOHN SEKORA TROLLING RIGS
Fished & Proved Daily
Available At Your Local Tackle Shop
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45 FOOT CHARTER BOAT
MONTAUK
SUMMER & FALL
SHARK FISHING
AND
Blues, Bass, Marlin, Tuna
6 PASS. - RADAR - SONAR
Capt. Paul Sundberg (516) 668-2056

FLUKE – FLUKE – FLUKE
Montauk's Original
FLUKE & FLOUNDER BOAT
26 Yrs. Montauk Experience
CAPT. SPIDER
SAILS DAILY - 9 A.M.
Capt. Ed Hegner
(516) 668-2201
FIRST TO SAIL YEAR ROUND

FAST 40 FOOT CUSTOM
TWIN SCREW SPORTFISHERMAN
SEA WITCH II
Finest Deep Sea & Big Game Fishing
"SHARK FISHING OUR SPECIALTY"
64 lb. COD — 315 lb. BLUE SHARK
500 lb. DUSKY — 308 lb. MAKO
WINNER OF FIELD & STREAM
CONTEST-108 lb. WHITE MARLIN
WEST LAKE FISHING LODGE, MONTAUK
CAPT. CHARLES NAPPI
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NEW 36' DIESEL POWERED
CHARTER BOAT
FOUR QUEENS
CAPTAIN WHITEY BATEMAN
6 Persons, Inshore and Offshore Fishing
A.M., P.M. or Full Days
Bass - Blues - Tuna - Marlin - Shark
Sailing From
VIKING DOCK
Montauk (516) 281-7703 After 6 P.M.

EBB TIDE
40' SPORTFISHERMAN
MONTAUK FISHING AT ITS FINEST

6 PASS. LIMIT - FULL DAYS ONLY
INSHORE & OFFSHORE CHARTERS
CHECK OUR SPECIAL WEEKDAY RATES
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"HEART OF THE FLEET"
OPEN ALL YEAR
Heated Rooms · TV · Efficiencies
MONTAUK
Mr. & Mrs. Damm
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INSHORE & OFFSHORE FISHING TUMA'S DOCK
Montauk Point
ALL TACKLE SUPPLIED
42' Diesel Powered—All Electronics
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AL & MARY'S MOTEL & EFFICIENCIES
ON THE BEACH
FULLY AIR CONDITIONED
Also - Charters with AL URBAN
on 30' Charter Boat DUKE
Box 675, Montauk, L.I. (516) 668-2896

NOTICE

Due to the time involved in processing the great volume of photographs received each week at the editorial offices, no photograph will be returned unless it is accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

STOP POLLUTION!
Keep our waters *CLEAN!*

BLOWFISH ARE IN!
Take a child fishing.

South Shore Report

MONTAUK

Mrs. Glas called and told of the fantastic tons of fish that the Hel-Cat and the Helen II are getting at Cox's Ledge. During the week the Hel-Cat leaves at 6 A.M. and the Helen II leaves at 12:30 P.M. for a full day of bluefishing at the Race. The bluefishing is covered from dawn to dusk. Fishing with whole herring, the action is heaviest on the uptide.

Lou Rosado and Mickey Chiarenza caught fluke from 2 to 12 lbs. at Montauk. They used squid strips for bait.

Betty Dorman told us that the Viking Skipper is fishing Block Island "Out of the World" grounds. High hook on Saturday was William Hopple of Paterson, N.J. with 21 cod.

The charter boat Easy Rider has been getting bass off the Point and bluefish offshore.

Ed Hegner of the Capt. Spider says that the fluke fishing matches the codfishing. He has had nothing less than a 10 lb. fish winning the pool. Many fish are going 12 to 14 lbs.

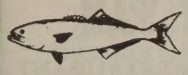
The Jigger III reports that the fluke fishing is fine every day and that there are very few throwbacks.

Capt. Paul Forsberg of the Viking Star reports that there are plenty of big codfish at Cox's Ledge. A lot of these fish are 20-30 lbs., and the pool winners are running 40 and 50 lbs.

Capt. Les Behan of the Peconic Queen II said that although his son's

CAPTREE WELCOMES YOU

WEAKS BLUES



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CALL (516) MO 9-0449

BRING THE FAMILY OUT

L.I.R.R. FISHERMANS SPECIAL

Sat. & Sun. ONLY (212) RE 9-4200

FLUKE

CAPTREE

THE NEW

SPEEDY V

BLUES EVERY DAY EVERY NIGHT

7AM–7PM

CAPT. SPEEDY HUBERT

(516) 785-2878

FOR CHARTER

65' YANKEE

BAY OR OCEAN FISHING

DAY & NIGHT BLUEFISHING

CAPT. BOB PATAFIO

(516) 798-4551

BLUES FROM CAPTREE

SPACIOUS—LUXURIOUS—FASTEST

JOSEPH IV — EVERY DAY 7 AM, EVERY NITE 7 PM

JOSEPH II / FLUKE I — 7 AM / 8 AM

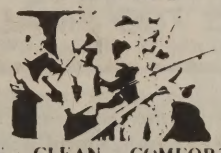
Afternoon Trips: Fri.,Sat.,Sun. & Hol. 3:30 PM

Families & Beginners Welcome—Tackle Provided

On Left Side Of Dock

(516) 669-2840 (516) 567-2188

CAPTREE



NEW · CLEAN · COMFORTABLE

65 Ft.

CAPT. ROD

FAMILY TRADE WELCOME

FLUKE FISHING

DAILY 8 AM [516] MO 9-1982

CAPT. SCOTTY

BLUEFISH

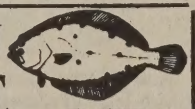
Sails Daily 7AM & 7PM

Right Side of Dock, by Bait Station

Women & Children Accommodated

CAPTREE MO 9-2256 MO 9-0627

CAPTAIN WAYNE



FLUKE

BAY FISHING

OPEN BOAT

8 A.M. DAILY

CAPTREE BASIN (516) MO 1-0005

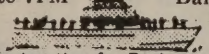
CAPT. BEN LITWIN

65 Ft. Open Boat

BIG BLUES Every Nite 7PM

FLUKE Daily 8AM

Tackle Available



T.V.

Instruction for Beginners

[516] MO 1-2764

Captree Queen

FABULOUS

WEAKFISH 7AM

FISHING DAILY

Sails From Right Side of Dock

FAMILIES ACCOMMODATED

(516) 669-1081

ANNA M III

OPEN BOAT 7AM DAILY

SAILS FROM RIGHT SIDE OF DOCK

BEGINNERS & FAMILIES WELCOMED

CAPTREE BASIN (516) 586-6238

CAPTREE'S CAPT WHITTAKER

FLUKE

[Bring Your Spinning Gear]

Beginners & Families Accommodated

8 A.M. DAILY

[516] 669-6273

CAPT. RICHIE

60' OPEN BOAT — TWIN SCREWS

FLUKE — 7 AM DAILY

WEST SIDE OF CAPTREE DOCK

TACKLE AVAILABLE FAMILIES ACCOMMODATED

[516] JU 1-0262

CAPT. SWANSON II

FLUKE 6 A.M. DAILY

Also there will be a Special Afternoon Trip each Sat., Sun. & Hol. starting May 19 - Sept. 3, sailing 2:30 P.M. & returning 6:30 P.M.

CAPTREE - TACKLE AVAILABLE

Capt. Frank Swanson (516) 661-6316

FLYING DUTCHMEN

BABYLON - 42' CHARTER BOAT

FLUKE-WEAKFISH-FLOUNDER

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Capt. Bruce Abugel (516) 277-3285

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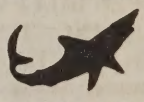
40' DIESEL - DAY OR NIGHT CHARTERS

MOONLIGHT CRUISES

CAPT. TONY [516] 785-4040 [Eves.] [516] 546-0431

POINT LOOKOUT'S JUNIOR II



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Reserve Your Charters Now For

SHARK-BLUES-TUNA-STRIPERS

6 PASSENGER LIMIT

Capt. Andy Pollio (516) GE 7-3381

LINDENHURST CHARTER BOAT

MOBY—D

Fast, Comfortable 45' Diesel Sportfisherman

OFFSHORE & BAY CHARTERS

BOOKING FOR 1973 SEASON

Sails From Ft. of Wellwood Ave. (Surfside III Marina)

Capt. Frank (516) 893-1498 Capt. Pete (516) 888-5842

MY DAD

OUT OF LINDENHURST, N.Y.

OFFSHORE & BAY CHARTERS

Fully Equipped Bertram 31' Sportfisherman

SHARK—TUNA—MARLIN—BLUES—ETC.

(516) TU 4-2021 (516) PY 8-7294

LINDENHURST OPEN BOAT

SEA HORSE

FLUKE & WEAKS 8 am daily

Sails from Popeyes Dock on Merrick Rd., across from Barnacle Bill's Restaurant

CAPT. BILL HOFFMAN (516) 888-8998

ISLAND PARK

BLUES GINNIE-MAE BLUES

OPEN BOAT

7 A.M.

CAPT. BILL (516) GE 1-5190 (516) VA 5-1533

At the Ft. of Long Beach Bridge, Island Park

CAPTAIN

FISH FREEPORT'S LARGEST 85 FOOTER

Jack's★Starstream★ BIG BLUES

CAPT. RICHIE KESSINGER [516] FR 9-2753

6:30 am

JACK VI FLUKE—NITE BLUES

7:30AM 7PM

CAPT. BILL MIESCHBERGER CHARTER BOATS AVAILABLE (516) FR 9-2753

Freeport Boatmen ASSN

OPEN & CHARTER BOATS
LARGEST FLEET IN FREEPORT

(516) FR 8-4838

ACME-CORSAIR-Capt. JOE
FREEPORT-MARIE II
NORSEMAN-SNAPSHOT
NORSEMAN- II

Book Now For Fluke, Blues, Tuna

WOODEN SHOE II

BIG FLUKE
45' DIESEL

OPEN BOAT WEEKDAYS 8 A.M.
SAILING CHARTER SAT.&SUN.
Sails From Tamaqua Fishing Station
Channel Ave.&Gerritsen Ave.,Bklyn

CAPT. EMIL (212)GR-4-0262
CAPT. MICKEY (212)SH-3-8045

CAPT AL

NITE BLUE FISHING 7PM

Freeport's largest all steel party boat
Fast 65' Twin Diesels

BIG BLUES NOW DAILY 6:30 AM

Woodcleft Canal (516) MA 3-2248

FREEPORT

CHARTER BOAT

EMPIRE

(212) 845-6379

CAPT. JIM V

Fishing Long Island Waters Since 1938

WEAKFISH-FLUKE SPECIAL
$95 Per Day - Bait Included
NITE BASS CHUMMING
$48 Per Tide - Bait & Chum Incl.

Limited to 6 Passengers
Capt. Jim Zook (516) RO 4-9677

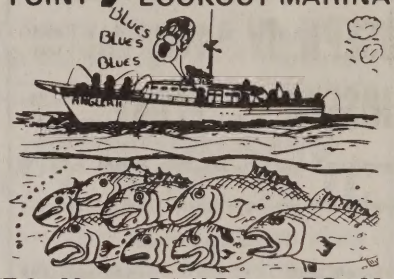
CAPT. LOU II

Flounders & Fluke –7:45AM

50' OPEN BOAT - TACKLE AVAILABLE
POOP DECK DOCK, FREEPORT
(516) FR 8-9598 (After 3 PM)

Angler II

POINT LOOKOUT MARINA



7A.M. BLUES 7P.M.

(516) SU 5-0505

FAST 85' OPEN BOAT
FREE PARKING FREE ICE

FLOUNDERS – FLUKE

Sat. 7:30 AM Sun. 7:30 AM

ALOMA II

FREEPORT – NEW 65 FOOT OPEN BOAT

Charters For Moonlight Sails Available

CAPT. PAUL SCHMIDT (516) 884-7821

COMMODORE

FLUKE DAILY 7am

FAST - Comfortable 65' OPEN BOAT
CAPT. CLEM (516) 431-2230
Ft. of Long Beach Bridge, Island Park, L.I.

KLONDIKE V

65' OPEN BOAT - TWIN DIESELS
RADAR - LATEST FISHFINDER
BAIT, TACKLE, BEER, SODA
Ladies Accommodations - Families Welcome
Sails Tue.-Fri. 9 AM 8 AM Sat. & Sun.
-NIGHT BLUEFISHING IN SEASON-
Capt. Pete Pearson (914) 738-4593
HUDSON PARK, NEW ROCHELLE

Come NORTH for your STRIPER FISHING On The CINDY II, 29' Offshore Bass Boat. We go where the fish are. Cuttyhunk, Martha's Vineyard area. Boat leaves Westport, Mass.

For details, write or call: 617-222-5190
Capt. Jack Reynolds, 8 Maple St., Attleboro, Mass.

You're the solution To water pollution!

FROM THWAITES MARINA, CITY ISLAND

85' FISHING BOAT 85'

THERESA – L III

EVERYDAY 9:AM

BAIT - TACKLE - RESTAURANT
Radiophones - Radar -Depth Recorder
Tel. (212) 885-1741 Capt. Sal
Free Parking - 300 Car Parking Lot

NORTH ★ STAR

BLACKS & PORGIES DAILY 7 AM
FROM
CITY ISLAND
65' Open Boat - Complete Electronics
RESTAURANT
(Located at 1st traffic lite near Jack's Bait)
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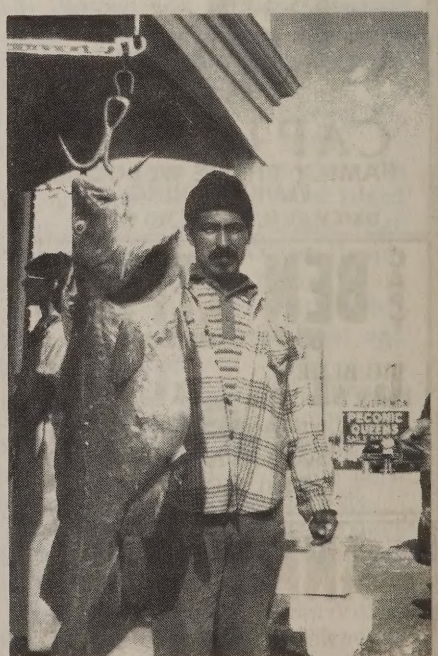
BLACKS & PORGIES
From
CITY ISLAND

APACHE III

Daily 9 AM (212) 885-0843

If you can SEE thru it, *IT'S TOO SMALL!*



David Malane won the pool aboard the Peconic Queen II with this 54 lb. codfish. David won the pool for 5 days in a row, which must be something more than luck.

EVER-READY FLEET

OPEN FISHING—$5.00 (½ DAY)
WHOLE DAY $10. Bait, Rod & Reel Incl.
EVERY Sat., Sun, & Hol. 7-11 AM; 12-4 PM
Private Charters. ——— Luaus,
All Occasions
ON LONG ISLAND SOUND
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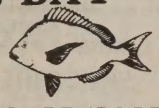
POOKA III

PECONIC BAY
PORGIES

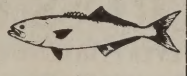


Claudio's Dock, GREENPORT
Capt. Dave Green (516) 727-5206
Capt. Frank Backnick (516) 668-2732

WILHELRIC

65 ft. OPEN BOAT
"BLACKFISH"
SAILS DAILY 8 AM
Capt. Bill Jensen [516] 477-1922
MITCHELL'S MARINA GREENPORT

Brand X



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85 FT. OPEN BOAT
BIG BLUES 7AM & 7PM
TOWN MARINA, PT. LOOKOUT
Capt. George Porter (516) 432-6610
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CHARTER BOATS - OPEN BOATS
RESERVATIONS - (516) 477-0008
Ft. of 1st St., GREENPORT, L.I., N.Y.

PECONIC WEAKS—PORGIES

8 A.M. 2 BOATS DAILY 8 A.M.
FROM SHINNECOCK CANAL
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CAPT. CLARK

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Fishing INFORMATION Anytime
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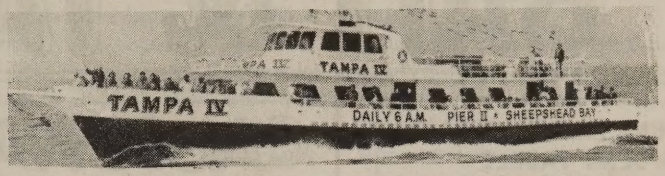
THE NEW TAMPA IV

117 ft. Long, 24 ft. Wide, Located at PIER II, Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn
"FULLY EQUIPPED WITH THE LATEST SPACE AGE ELECTRONICS"

TAMPA IV



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BLUEFISH DAILY 6AM

7 PM-NIGHT BLUEFISHING-7 PM
EVERY NIGHT EXCEPT SUNDAY

Featuring Rental Of New Electric Reels & Rods & Regular Heavy Tackle
Full Restaurant, Lounge & Rest Rooms, Sleeping Accommodations; For Information
Call Capt. Rocky 212-835-2812 or Capt. Victor 212-769-3767, Evenings
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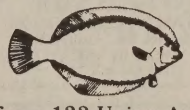
OPEN BOAT
FLOUNDERS

SAT. & SUN. ONLY
SR. CITIZENS SPECIAL
SAILING 7:30 A.M.
CAPT. RON SCHLUETER



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BETTY W

Large & Small Charters Available
45 Ft. Diesel Charter Boat
Now Booking Charters For 1973
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45 Ft. DIESEL
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LARGE & SMALL PARTIES
Fast 45' Twin Diesel-All Electronics
Capt. Tony (212) 622-4740

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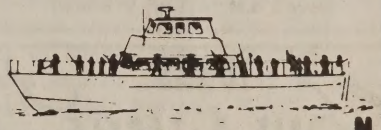
Subscribe TODAY!



NEW

AMBERJACK IV

NEW

SHEEPSHEAD BAY — PIER III
SAILS 7 A.M. MON.—FRI.
SAILS 6 A.M. SAT., SUN., & HOL.
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ALL POSSIBLE ELECTRONICS
112' ALL STEEL FISHING YACHT
SLEEPING ACCOMMODATIONS
LADIES ACCOMMODATIONS
FULL RESTAURANT—BAIT
TACKLE AVAILABLE

BLUEFISH - 7 DAYS
6 NIGHTS - 7 PM
EXCEPT MONDAY NIGHT
Capt. Jim [212] 336-2050
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SIX MAN CHARTER BOAT

40-FOOT SPORT CRUISER

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CAPT. STAN KREISLER
Parkway Fishing Station
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Brooklyn, N. Y.

After 7 P.M.
Telephone
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OPEN BOAT

7 AM DAILY

GROUP CHARTERS AVAILABLE
CAPT. DOM PALERMO (212) 438-1059

FAST 45' TWIN SCREW

TONE B

SHEEPSHEAD BAY, PIER 4
CHARTERS AVAILABLE
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DISCOUNT PRICES ON ALL POPULAR TACKLE

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PENN "SQUIDDER"(140M)
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Amity Harbor Open 6 A.M.

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ALL BAIT IN SEASON
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WEAKFISH JIGS - Clam & Bunker Chum
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450 FIRE ISLAND AVE • BABYLON
OPEN EVERY DAY MO 9-9837

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All Bait in Season
OPEN BOATS DAILY • Charters Arranged
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TACKLE HEADQUARTERS
COMPLETE FISHING SUPPLIES
FROM BAIT TO NUTS
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SHAKESPEARE RODS & REELS
LIVE KILLIES & EELS
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FRESH AND SALT WATER
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boat fished Block Island on Sunday in the rain, he had none at Cox's Ledge where he is getting big codfish. The weekend pool winners were Chester Barrock, Valley Stream, N.Y. with a 50 lb. cod, while second place was taken by Herb Phillips of Lynbrook, N.Y. with a 48 lb. cod. Herb also had 28 other cod with one going 20 lbs.

John Keller of Lake MOntauk Marina reports hot fluke fishing at Shagwong, the North Rip and drifting along the beach. Squid, sand eels and spearing are the baits to use. A Mrs. Renner of New Jersey came in with 40 to 50 pounds of fluke after being out a half day on their boat. She had one 11½ and one 8½ lb. fluke.

PROMISED LAND

The Promised Land Fishing Station reports that porgy fishing is very good east of Cartwright and Hicks Island. The fluke fishing has been consistent, with the fish being of good eating size. Blues are being caught wherever the terns are working.

SAG HARBOR

Excellent weakfishing, says Mrs. Jacobsen of the Noyac Marina. She told of three men who came in on Thursday with over 70 weaks from 1 to 4 lbs. These fish are being caught throughout the area and by the Monastery. There are plenty of porgies available and also an occasional fluke or kingfish.

SHINNECOCK

Capt. Clark Bellows, Sr. says that both the Capt. Clark I and Capt. Clark II are doing very well on weakfish in the western part of Peconic Bay. On Sunday, Ed Trapp of Riverhead and his granddaughter had 19 weaks between them. There were 127 fish for 21 people on Sunday. The weakfish are making a strong comeback. Porgies are also being caught and all are keepers.

Mickey Altenkirch said that the South Shore Marlin Fishing Contest was rained out and that there is little action offshore. Bay fishing remains good for fluke, weakfish, porgies and flounder.

HAMPTON BAYS

Frank's Fishing Station reported the fluke fishing is not bad. There is good steady fishing available. Saturday was o.k.

Ted DeCastri of the Three Aces Fishing Center went fishing in a private shark fishing contest. He caught a 98 lb. mako. The winner was a 297 lb. blue shark, however, Ted had no details. He mentioned that blues are being caught outside Shinnecock Inlet.

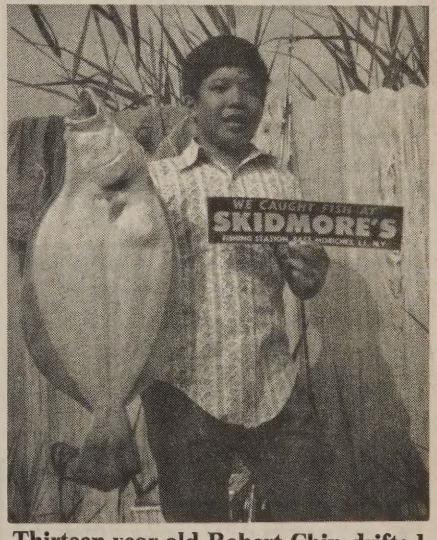
Bradley's Fishing Station reported that the bay fishing is good. The weakfish are picking up and the porgies are holding their own. There are some snapper blues in the bay also.

MORICHES

Shoreline Marina reports that school stripers are being taken in the new cut by casters. Stripers of 4 or 5 lbs. make up these catches. Fluke fishing is still good and the weaks are off Buoy 27.

Chet from B & B Tackle mentioned snapper blues in the bay. There are lots of school bass being taken on plugs and by casting a ¾ oz. white Tri-Fin lure. The ½ oz. Tri-Fin is also taking weakfish.

The open boat Alma has been fluke fishing Buoys 21-25. Drifting from Buoy 23 to 24 has produced about 2



Thirteen year old Robert Chin drifted at Buoy 39 out of Skidmore's Fishing Station for this 9 lb. fluke.

fish per man on each drift. There are lots of shorts, however, they have averaged between 10 to 20 fish, of good eating size, per man. Some of these fish were big flounders that were caught on the fluke rigs.

Mary Skidmore spoke of Walter Hansen of N.Y.C. who weighed in a 9 lb. 10 oz. fluke. This fish, along with others, was caught by chumming with Canachum and live killies. One boat came in with about 20 fluke but most came in with 4 to 6 fish. The low count is due to returning short fluke to the water unharmed. Mary said that the flounders are still coming in and a few

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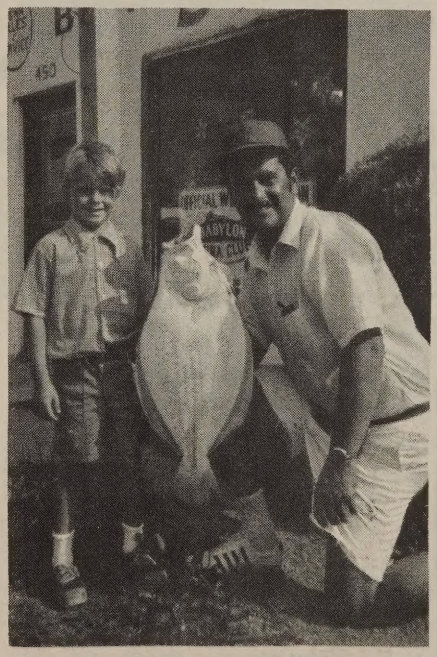
weakfish to 5 lbs. were caught around Buoy 42. Snapper blues were caught off the sand bar at the Coast Guard Station.

MASTIC BEACH

Ronnie Keenan of Keenan's Fishing Station says that the blue claw crabs are at the mouth of Pattersquash Creek. The fluke are still plentiful. Small blues are available and there are quite a few weakfish being caught between Buoys 21 to 23. He notes that it is unusual to catch blues and weaks together. The weakfish were gone for a while but are back strong now.

WEST SAYVILLE

Dennis Masterson of the South Bay Fishing Station said the fluke fishing is real good, with 75% of the fish caught being keepers. The weakfish have schooled stronger and you don't have to hunt them. East of Buoys 30 to 31 there are kingfish and 1¼ to 4 lb. weaks. While fluke fishing, anglers are picking up blue claw crabs, even in the middle of the bay. Fred Bezler and friends, John and Pete, caught over 30 weaks in three hours time using Bagley's shrimps. They also caught three blues on top, weighing 2-3 lbs. The area around the Browns River Jetty is producing well.



Dr. Joseph Nicols of West Islip, Dental Director of Suffolk County, displays a 9 lb. 4 oz. fluke he caught fishing with his son Joseph, Jr. standing at left. They collected a nice fluke catch by the Coast Guard Station. Photo by Augie's Bait & Tackle, Babylon.

Bluefish, from 8 to 12 lbs., caught aboard the Princess Pat, south of Fire Island, in 85 ft. of water. Left to right: Charlie Martinick, "Pop" Russell and Ken Miller.

CAPTREE

The Capt. Joseph Fleet has had good fluke fishing inside and fine bluefishing outside. One boat runs for blues at 7 A.M. and 7 P.M. Another goes for fluke at 7 A.M., and on Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 3:30 P.M. A third boat goes for fluke at 8 A.M.

Capt. George Tweedy of the Capt. Scotty has been bluefishing day and night. He fished west of Cholera Banks and seems to do better at night. The fish are in the 8-10 lb. range, and one went an estimated weight of 14 lbs.

Capt. Wayne Westerlind of the Capt. Wayne reports that there is fine fluke fishing from the inlet to Ocean Beach. These fish are going to better than 5 lbs.

The Captree Bait Station reports that stripers to 15 lbs. are being caught off Democrat Point on Striper Swipers and Rebels. At slack tide, try a Hopkins. The State Channel is full of grass and only the very top of high tide can be worked. The Robert Moses Pier is producing fluke, blackfish and small flounders.

BABYLON

Mario at the American Sportsman went shark fishing Sunday, and while they did not catch any sharks, they did fine on the blues about ten miles offshore. He notes that the weakfish are returning. Fluke fishing remains good but he says there are lots of shorts and that summonses are being issued for keeping them. Put the fluke that are under fourteen inches back so that you can take them next month.

Walter Schmidt of the Babylon Fishing Station says fluke fishing is fine at Snake Hill Channel and from

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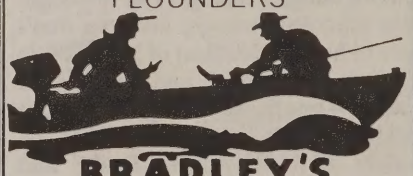

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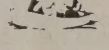

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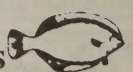

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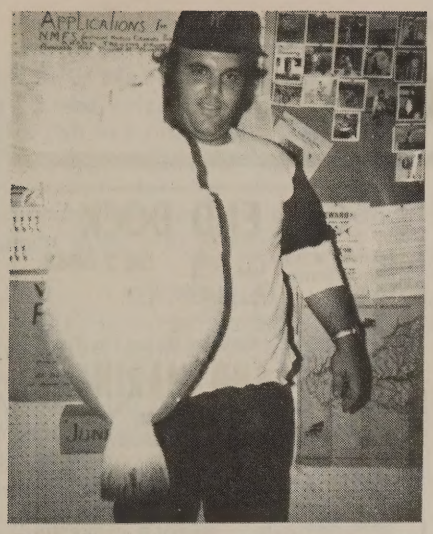


Don Chiapetta caught this 10¼ lb. fluke at the Fire Island Lighthouse on a squid and sand eel bait. Photo by Charlie's Fishing Station, Babylon.

the lighthouse to the inlet. Snappers are in and the kids are catching them like mad. Walter says to try weakfishing in the evening from about 6 P.M. to dark. Blue claw crabs are plentiful.

Charlie's Fishing Station reported weaks off Bergen Point. Kingfish are showing up throughout the bay. Fluke fishing is good. Blue claw crabs of decent size are available everywhere.

LINDENHURST

Capt. Hoffman of the open boat Sea Horse reports fabulous fluking due to the hot weather. The fish are going off the flats and into the holes and deeper water. Six good sized keepers per man is no problem. Areas to try include the inlet and off Ocean Beach using shiners and killie-squid combos. Weakfishing is slow. There are no blowfish and no kings either. The fluking should improve even more as there are fewer shorts. Conservation Officers are really on their toes and they are investigating all boats, large, small, charter and open.

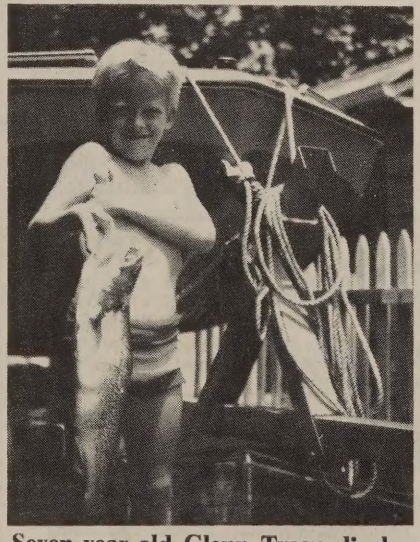
Charlie's West reports plenty of blues off the Head Buoy with 10 and 16 pounders common. You could walk on the,, says Jack Schaefer. The ocean is full of blues! Fluking is excellent in the State Channel. There are more keepers now. Try the American Venice Hole. Weakfish are increasing in numbers. The bays are loaded with crabs. Snappers are being taken off the docks by youngsters.

Charlie's Bait & Tackle reports fishing in the bay is very good for all the species around. The charter boat My Dad got six sharks in 160 ft. of water south of the Fire Island Inlet. A 100 lb. white shark was taken by Bob Lindski's party on Saturday in 150' of water 150° out of Fire Island Inlet. They also tagged and released several dusky sharks. A 60 lb. hammerhead was weighed in on Monday by Ed Zachman.

AMITYVILLE

George Combs Bait & Tackle reported that Fred Roach loaded up on weaks and bass off Fort Neck, Massapequa on Saturday. There's good striper activity on clam chum off Gilgo. Good fluking is available and there is an improvement in size. Try the Amityville Cut and the State Channel. There is very good crabbing with traps and with nets on the flats. The fluke are taking killies ands sand eels best. There is very good bluefishing in 50' of water on chum and drifted chunks of tinker mackerel.

Jonas Bait & Tackle reports weaks and fluke are excellent in the bay off Copiague. Bluefish can be found offshore and there are a few in the bay. Striped bass can be taken on clam bellies at the Moses Bridge and Fire Island Inlet. Crabs are plentiful.



Seven year old Glenn Tyson displays his first weakfish, a 4 pounder, caught in the Amityville State Channel.

SEAFORD

Wanser's Bait & Tackle reported that the weakfish have come in again. Acres of these fish are seen breaking in the State Channel area, Goose Creek and the Zachs Bay area. Pink artificial shrimp, squid and worms on the bottom, are turning the trick. The weaks started showing on Wednesday in late afternoon. There is good fluking and there are lots of big blues offshore.

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Bob of the Naomi Inn called in to tell about Mickey and Mike of the M & M who weighed in a 42 lb. bass. This fish was caught off JOnes Inlet. There is good fluke fishing available, but watch out for those shorts. Crabbing picked up, with many being caught using a killie ring.

WANTAGH

Frank Hecker of Causeway Bait & Tackle says snappers are in and a lot were taken at the Wantagh Park over the weekend. Bass fishing at the Wantagh Bridges on clam bellies is very good. Joe Cheese got ten stripers there which went to 20 lbs. He's having the 20 pounder mounted. The fluking is very good, with sizes and quantities improving steadily. Crabbing is very good also.

MERRICK

George at Nick's Fishing Station reports bass fishing is good at the bridges on clam chum. A man, known to his friends as Jimmy, says to try trolling surge tubes at the bridges. Fluke are plentiful, however, shorts should be returned. Conservation Officers are playing games as far as the fluke are concerned. Weakfish are not available off Merrick yet.

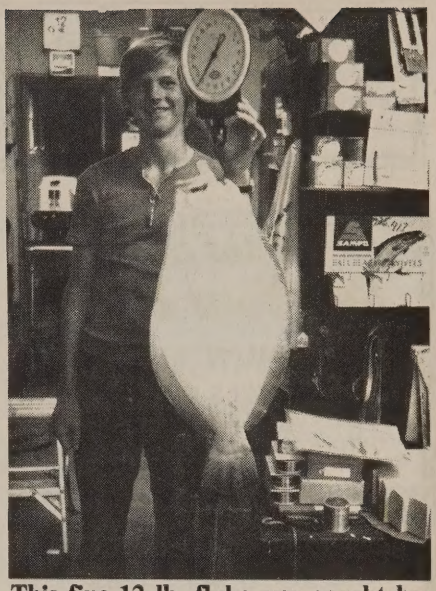
N.Y. Bight Report

FREEPORT

Capt. Richie Kessinger of the party boat Star Stream reports good to excellent bluefishing this past week. In the earlier part of the week, the Star Stream found excellent blue action in the Acid Stain, while later in the week the fish were caught south southwest of the Angler Banks in the area of the Three Sisters Wreck. Richie said because of poor weather conditions on Sunday there was a slow-up in action, but even with this, blues were caught. Richie reports the high hook on Sunday had 14 or 15 fish.

Capt. Bill Meischberger of the Capt. Jack VI said that night bluefishing has been running hot and cold, although there were some nights when the Capt. Jack VI returned with outstanding catches. Friday saw a night that produced only 40 fish. Bill said there was a 10° drop in water temperature and he feels this is what has affected the night bluefishing.

Capt. Al Lindroth of the party boat



This fine 12 lb. fluke was caught by Scott Glandt of Levittown while drifting in the State Channel near the Meadowbrook Bridge. Photo by Causeway Bait & Tackle.

Capt. Al said he found the bluefishing excellent this entire week. Al said the fish were caught at several differnet areas this week. On Monday and Tuesday he found the blues at the Acid Water. Monster Ledge proved to be the hot spot on Wednesday. On

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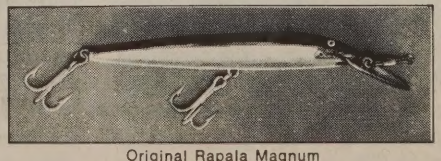

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Thursday, it was jigging off Elberon. Friday brought a day of local fishing off Gilgo Beach. On Saturday, the Capt. Al discovered a new body of fish in the area of the Three Sisters Wreck which lays a few miles SSW of Angler Banks. Al said they loaded up on Saturday and returned again on Sunday for another good catch. Capt. Al also reports that Capt. Don Hall, who has been skippering the Capt. Al for night blues, found the night action good every night this week except Friday. Al said the fishing came back on Saturday. Don has been doing most of his fishing in the area of Cholera Banks.

Capt. Paul Schmidt of the Aloma II said he started off on Saturday by making two drifts off Jones Inlet for fluke. Paul said although those two drifts did produce seven fluke, the weather was sloppy and was having an adverse effect on his passengers. It was at this time that Paul headed back to Swift Creek for flounders. Using only clam for bait, they had an outstanding day, so good in fact that they returned again on Sunday for a carbon copy of Saturday's results. Paul said the high hook on Sunday landed 47 good sized flounders.

POINT LOOKOUT

Capt. Art White of the Angler II reports excellent bluefishing most of this week. On Friday, Saturday and Sunday, the bluefishing was outstanding. On Friday, Dan Caslow and his partner, Bob Seydel, of Long Beach, took first and second honors in the pool with an 11 and 12 lb. bluefish. On Friday, Captain White said he found his best action in the area of Gilgo, while on Saturday and Sunday he fished in the area of the Three Sisters Wreck and again found excellent action.

Marilyn Wardle of Ed's Fishing Station reporys that there are many short fluke around, however, a much better percentage have been keepers. Swift Creek continues to yield excellent flounder fishing. Marilyn

Donald Seward and Donald Thompson caught these blues and one shark on Thompson's boat, July 8. They fished one hour south of Jones Inlet.

reports small stripers are being chummed at the bridges with clam bellies. Some small weakfish were also reported this past week.

ISLAND PARK

Clem Esposito of the Commodore Fishing Station reports that bass sharpies are still catching big bass between Lido and Rockaway. Fresh bunker has been the hot bait. Clam also reports that the bay is loaded with small fluke. Some keepers are mixed in but a great majority of them are shorts. Clam said that the party boat Commodore has been fishing mostly off Riis Park and that 90% of the fish caught in this area are keepers.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Sy Rubin of Henning's Fishing Station reports Reynolds Channel is loaded with small fluke. Sy said they get progressively larger as you get closer to the inlet and they advance to good size off Playland and Riis Park. On Saturday he weighed in a fluke of 7 lbs. 2 ozs., caught by Abner Schmidt of Far Rockaway. Stripers in the 20 lb. class are being trolled on bunker spoons and tubes. Sy said the local bass fishing for schoolies at the bridge is rated excellent. For the offshore fisherman sharks can still be sound southeast of the inlet in 130 ft. of water. Sy knew of a fisherman aboard the Smokey who was tuna fishing on Friday south of the B.A. Buoy. He had a tuna of an estimated weight of 175 lbs. on a 4/0 outfit for approximately one hour before it was lost.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Capt. Rocky Becker of the Tampa IV reports that bluefishing has been good most of this week. Rocky reports fishing in several spots including the Acid Stain, Asbury Park, also off Elberon and Monster Ledge. Rocky said that night bluefishing was good up to Friday night. Most boats found poor fishing on Friday, however, on Saturday it picked up again. The Tampa IV found fair fishing in the day on Saturday and Sunday in the area of the Three Sisters Wreck.

Harold Anderson of the Bay End Dock reports all fishing is red hot. Fluke are being caught in substantial numbers off Riis Park and also the Plum Beach flats. Striped bass are being trolled off the jetty and Tin Can Grounds. Harold reports that on Sunday, Al Robinson landed 40 porgies up to 2 lbs. each fishing on the "lump" west of the jetty. Small bass and weaks can be chummed at the Round House.

Mike of Mike's Tackle reports most party boats had an excellent week with the blues. Mike also said that fluke fishing is excellent all along the Rockaway shore. As for local crabbing, Mike said it could not be better.

Neil Lauro of the Stella Maris Fishing Station reports weighing in the first tuna of the season. It was caught from Ken Carlton's boat by John Geer while fishing southeast of the B.A. Buoy. It weighed exactly 20 lbs. Neil also reports a catch of 40 fluke which were caught off East Rockaway by Steve and Brad Noble. Small bass and blues are being jigged with diamond jigs off Coney Island and the Tin Can Grounds.

STATEN ISLAND

Lenny Killoran of Santo's Sport Shop reports trollers have been picking up bass in the 8 to 10 lb. class on Tri-Fin lures in the Great Kills Park area. Oakwood Beach has also been yielding small bass on popper plugs, mostly from boats. Trollers working Annadale and the Middle Grounds are being rewarded with 2 to 6 lb. blues. Pet spoons and tubes have been the most productive. Lenny said fluke fishing remains good almost anywhere, with the shorts and keepers running about 50-50. A few snappers are also beginning to show but they are only about 4 inches in length.

SANDY HOOK

Joe Julian of Julian's Bait Co. reports stripers are still being trolled off Sandy Hook. Joe said the fish have been responding to tubes, spoons, plugs and fresh bunkers. On Saturday, Bill Kehoe of Spring Lake Heights landed a bass of 26 lbs. in the area of the Golf Ball. Joe said most of the fish weighed in last week ranged in weight from 10 to 31 lbs. and averaged about 20 pounds. Trolling for blues along local beaches has been good.

North Shore Report

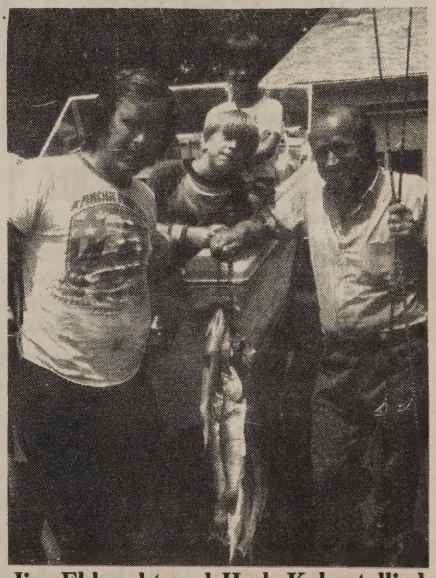
GREENPORT

Dave Green of the Pooka III called in to report that the porgy fishing is still good and that the fish are running bigger. They are also catching some weakfish.

Art White's Bait Shop reports that Nick and George Kiozellis slaughtered the porgies off Horton's Point. The anglers launched their boat from the beach and had over 300 porgies of from 1 to 3 lbs. in just over two hours.

Porgies are mixed in the bay. Stripers and blues are being taken in the Plum Gut area drifting 3 oz. yellow bucktails and also by jigging.

Mrs. Jensen of the Wilhelric open boat reported that the strong winds over the weekend blew out their fishing. During the week they caught an average of 60 fluke per trip fishing Gardiners Island. These fish ran to 6 lbs., with very few throwbacks. Mrs. Jensen reported they are going to concentrate on blackfishing.



Jim Ebbrecht and Herb Kohn tallied 22 weakfish, 2 to 5 lbs., fishing in Peconic Bay, west of Robins Island. A cork float was used between the hook and the 3-way swivel to deter sea robins.

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SOUTHOLD

Bill Lieblein of the Port of Egypt said that the weakfishing on Sunday wasn't what it was up to during the week. Six to twelve fish per boat was the average catch, with porgies rounding out the catch. Fishing has been good to great, with the catches coming in from the Brickyard and Greenlawn. South Ferry has porgies and small blackfish.

Southold Fishing Station has had good weak and porgy fishing during the week. Mary Morris said that on Sunday the boats went out in the rain and lightning and the anglers got soaked. They came back in and dried out, had coffee, then went out again. This time there was very little wind and every boat came in by 4 P.M. with lots of porgies and some weakfish.

NEW SUFFOLK

Porgies, up to 150-200 per boat, and lots of weakfish were picked up in the rain over the weekend, said Sal of Capt. Marty's Fishing Station. The porgies were taking worms and skimmers at both the North and South Race, west of Robins Island. The weaks, to 3 lbs., were being caught at Rose's Grove and Buoy 23. The trio of either squid, worm or Salty Dog lures are catching fish.

MOUNT SINAI

Ralph's Fishing Station reports porgies and blackfish are available from Miller Place to Rocky Point. Some fluke to 6 lbs. can be had by

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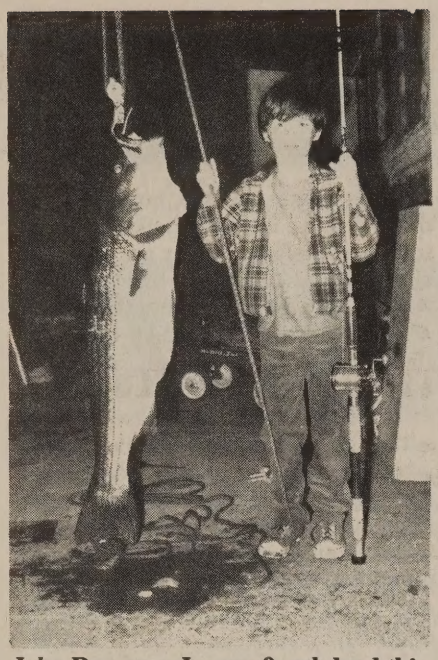


John Donovan, Jr., age 9, subdued this 40 pound bass in 30 minutes on July 6. The location was Mamaroneck; the bait - a piece of drifted mackerel.

fishing for them with a single hook rig and live killie. If you bait with squid, you will get porgies and a few fluke.

PORT JEFFERSON

Last week, Capt. Joe Cash of the Port Jeff Ace had a 66 year old woman aboard that caught a 5 lb. sea bass. The angler was Bety Detingo of Floral Park, N.Y. Betty and her husband caught a load of porgies also. Despite the rain on Sunday, Joe sailed with 28 people aboard and they all caught lots of porgies. Capt. Cash also reported sighting some bluefish.

Capt. John Fischer of the Betty W had a Tuesday charter of patients from the Kings Park State Hospital. They had weaks to 7 lbs. and blacks to 5 lbs., one fluke and lots of porgies. John says that the name of the game here is porgy fishing.

Bluefish up to 9 lbs. were caught Sunday about two miles north of Crane's Neck. John of the Caraftis Fishing Station also said that the porgy fishing is still good and that the porgy fishermen are coming in with an occasional sea bass of 2 or 3 lbs.

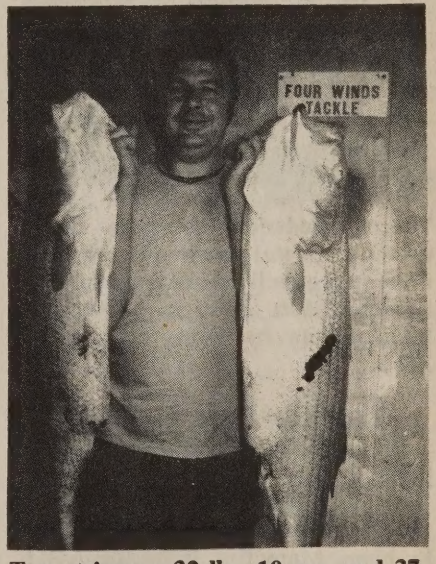
Dick's Sporting Goods reports striped bass of 7 or 8 lbs. being caught in the harbor on the outgoing tide. Some bass are being caught offshore by drifting live eels and sandworms. Some blowfish were caught from the beach.

Plaza Sporting Goods reported that a 30½ and a 39½ lb. striper were taken on drifted sandworms off Rocky Point by Frank Nekvapil and Charlie Nook. This action took place on Saturday in the A.M. on an outgoing tide. Nice fishing, fellas.

NORTHPORT

Bowman's Sporting Goods reports fair bluefishing, with 5 or 6 fish per man the average. The fish are taking a trolled surgical tube lure worked in the deep water offshore. Some weaks are being caught from a half to one mile north of Buoy 13. Small porgies are in close and the larger ones are found further out. Bass are being trolled at night. Some flounder are still around.

The Chainlocker Bait & Tackle reports that Sunday saw bluefish being caught off Eaton's Neck on trolled surge tubes and bucktails.



Two stripers - 32 lbs. 10 ozs. and 37 lbs. - were caught on clams in early July by Donald Urbanski of Commack off Eaton's Neck Light.

HUNTINGTON

George Valentine of the Four Winds Tackle Shop called in to say that they are "mohawking" the fish in the Huntington area. From Friday on, fishermen have been getting striped bass on trolled bucktails and blues on umbrella rigs off Eaton's Neck. One bass went 35½ lbs. Most others are running 12 lbs. or better. The bluefish are running from 7 to 12 lbs. The smallest weighed in ran 6 lbs. 10 ozs. There are tons of bunker in Lloyd Harbor and the blues there have been running 8 to 10 lbs. You can take these fish in the A.M. Worm trollers are picking up bass to 22 lbs. in the area from Lloyd Point to Target Rock. Porgies are around Sand City and

weaks can be found at Duck Island.

GLEN COVE

John of Glen Cove Sports Shop reported that Steve Muth, age 10, caught a 3½ lb. weakfish off Morgans Island Beach on a worm spinning rig. Blues rose on Sunday in Hempstead Harbor. These fish went to 3½ lbs. and about 20 fish per boat was the average. The blues were taken on small trolling tubes and some were taken on drifted bunker chunks. The mouth of Hempstead Harbor is full of blues.

Theresa Federico (daughter Carrie shown in photo) caught this 33 lb. 4 oz. striper on a live bunker on July 10, between Mott Point and Prospect Point. Photo by Glen Cove Sports Shop.

COLD SPRING HARBOR

Big blues are being caught off Lloyd Point and in Cold Spring Harbor. Veterans Fishing Station reports weighing in two 17 lb. and several 15 lb. blues. Many fish are in the 7 or 8 lb. class. The big blues are taking a cast or trolled Rebel or Tony Accetta spoon. Porgies and blackfish are still being taken, while weakfish are being caught on the strong incoming or outgoing tide at the Oyster Bay entrance.

CITY ISLAND

Ed Rosenberger tells of good porgy fishing. Some small bass of 6 to 8 lbs. are being trolled on worms. The blues are few and far between. A school of mackerel seems to be hanging off the pier and they are big, running 1-1½ lbs. This school seems to move in and out.

Jack's Bait & Tackle reported that Zach Grossman and Dante Austeri were drifting mackerel strips for bass and they picked up three blues, one of more than 13 lbs. Some blues were at No Nations. These fish ran to 8 lbs.

CONNECTICUT SCENE

DICK ALLEY

IF as professed, the boats do not deire to move into yet shallower water to take gamefish, IF they are afraid of clogging and damaging their nets, IF they are aware of repeating that snafu of fishing themselves out of business, then why push for or even sponsor a bill to move in closer to the shore?

The more important question rests with why our legislators, the people who WE elect to office, completely disregard the feelings of thousands upon thousands of sportfishermen, tackle dealers and others, who almost unanimously pushed for not only a two mile limit, but far greater restrictions originally.

It's my belief that the wishes and wants, the likes and dislikes, the enjoyment and recreation of thousands of voting, taxpaying anglers in this State, are far more important than the few dollars derived from the taxes paid by the fishing boats. I'm sure the sales taxes and taxes gained from the Dingle-Johnson bill, from the fishermen in Fairfield County alone, come to far more than those paid by the out-of-state commercial fishing interests.

STAMFORD

A new record? Sixty four pounds of striped bass, and all one fish, was weighed in at Pat's Marina on Thursday. The giant fish was taken by Steve Pelekakis, trolling a Big Daddy lure of the Goo-Goo Eyes line. Congratulations Steve, and an added tip of the hat to Leo Cooper who designed this lure which has proven itself as a big fish winner.

Chris Chirillo reports many other bass catches in and around the Stamford Cows, as well as weakfish and continuing porgy action.

At Jack's Bait & Tackle the word is bass, blues and weakfish, with the former and the latter coming in around Collanders Point, and the choppers showing up under the bunker schools.

DARIEN

Burt Van Sciver at the Bait Shop is smiling. He ran into his first blues of the year off the Golf Course on the other side and took a couple on a white popper. Quite a few bass have been coming in, while porgies are the mainstay for the bottom fishermen.

Rimas Taruski of the Connecticut River Striper Club with a 44 lb. striper, caught at Watch Hill.

WESTCHESTER

Dan Catalano reports bass fishing in the fantastic category. Many fish in the forties come in every week, with a 44 lb. 11 oz. striper recorded by Marion Kranichfeld of Rye, N.Y. Blues, too, are showing up outside Milton Harbor. Best part is that plugs of all kinds are producing.

At Mamaroneck Fishing Station, Bud Wright's 49 lb. 11 oz. striper of the week was one of many taken on mackerel. Porgies are plentiful for those who want them. No big bluefish action as yet.

Freddy Cameron at Cameron's Boats tells of good blackfishing as well as striped bass fishing. Blues showed between the lighthouse and the deeper water. Mackerel are cornered in the lower end of the Sound. Lots of porgies inside, and Freddy passes on the tip to try for blackfish around the pilings at Fort Slocum. Three fluke came into the catch for one angler, and they haven't been around in years.

GREENWICH

Lots of good fishing in the Greenwich area, with stripers the specialty. A 12½ lb. bluefish has already come in from the mouth of the river, taken on a bunker by a bass fisherman. Porgies pave the bottom all along Greenwich Point and the surrounding shoreline.

NORWALK

Bruce Mola of Mola Bros. Bait & Tackle tells of some great weakfishing around Sprite Island, with his uncle catching 14 in a trip. First blues have been trolled up, and several were caught under the bunker schools. Walter June took close to twenty,

scaling 8 to 10 lbs., under the bunkers.

At the Tackle Box, Gloria Borges has also had some good bass reports, as well as blues and weakfish. Hubby, Tom, found blues under the bunkers, bass under the blues, and weakfish at the very bottom for a great afternoon.

BRIDGEPORT

Bob's Bait informs us of some striper action off Sunken Island. Penfield has slowed, as has Breezy Point, but porgy action rates fabulous off the entire area.

Ted's Bait, too, had bass catches reported outside the Norwalk Islands on live bunker, with Bob Costu bringing in a 31 pounder. The blues that haven't showed in Bridgeport waters until now should be in by the time you read this, with bluefish reports in surrounding waters increasing every day.

Stowie at the Sportsman's Den has been doing well at the Gun Club in Stratford. Bass there are feeding on sand eels, and hitting sandworms and metal lures like the Hopkins. Some weaks are also mixing in.

STRATFORD

Housatonic Marina reports plenty of action at the mouth of the river. Near the lighthouse, porgies fill the bill. Bass are holding well for the surf anglers, both with bait and with lures. Weakfish, too, are coming in, as well as small blues. Fluke, too, are still showing on occasion.

NEW HAVEN

Walt Janeczek at Outdoor Sports tells of big blues at the jetty at Savin Rock, with a whole bunker fished on the bottom producing best. Bass are plentiful, as are porgies. Bass are at Morningside and Branford, with weights going 20 lbs. on up. The Point Jude swimmer is popular among others. Thimble Islands area produces for the trollers using surgical tubes.

WATERFORD

Hillyer's Bait & Tackle reports blues hitting like crazy, with bunkies the favored method. Stripers continue excellent all along the shore. Fluke and weakfish are improving daily, but not really good as yet.

Captain John Wadsworth reports two charter boats in addition to his own leave the dock daily, and all return with bass, blues, and often both. Bass are averaging 15 lbs., with many much heavier, and blues are coming in at 8 to 10 lbs. even though they're lean. Offshore fishing is already beginning, with first catches of tuna, swords, and white marlin already reported.

MYSTIC

Blues in the Race, fluke to beat the band, and loads of porgies are enough to tempt any angler into Fishers Island Sound. Inside fishing also incredibly includes a good catch of flounder, comes the report from Shaefers Boat Livery.

NEW JERSEY

PETE BARRETT

SANDY HOOK

Julian's Sport Shop reported some good striper fishing drifting live bunker near the Golf Ball. The largest of the week was Tom Schuyler's 33 pounder. Fluke fishing is good at the channel by Ammo Pier. Stripers were hitting plugs and worms in Sandy Hook Park. A few weakfish were also caught by surfcasters.

Bill at Henjo's reported good fluke action on Saturday near the tip of Spermecetti Cove, by the Coast Guard Station. Bob Skarzynski and John Baron had 70 at the Officers Beach. Stan Kowalski and Hal Zarri had 60 with some fluke going 4 to 5 lbs.

SEABRIGHT

Armand at Giglio's reported good striper action for cartoppers at Seabright and Monmouth Beaches. Mel Fescio and his two sons, Bob and Ray, along with their uncle Les, limited out with 40 bass up to 20 lbs. on poppers and Mille bucktails. Fluke fishing is good in the rivers. One 8 pounder was reported.

LONG BRANCH

We had a blitz of blues, said Steven's Tackle Shop. Seven to nine pound blues were hitting on Hopkins and other metal lures. Bass action has been good at night on crabs and sandworms. Lou Bertaro took 8 stripers to 13 lbs. and Doug Mevel had 11 stripers from 4 to 20 lbs. Weakfish and fluke are also in the surf. Fishing at the Long Branch Pier has been good for blues and fluke, with some weakfish showing. Matt Sowel at the pier said that blues are in again-out again. Tommy Manfield, 15 years old, won the weekly contest with an 8 lb. 8 oz. bluefish. One 21 lb. striper was also taken on the pier. The largest fluke taken went 6 lbs. 4 ozs., however, the average catch weighs about 2 lbs. The surprise catch on Sunday was a 50 lb. drumfish.

HUDSON RIVER

PETE BARRETT

KINGSTON

Roy's Bait & Tackle reported good smallmouths in Roundout Creek. They are responding to live shiners, Rapalas and Mepps spinners. Worms are also good as live bait, and early morning is the best time to fish. Rifton Dam is still producing crappies. Trout fishing is slow in the local streams because of the low water.

WAPPINGERS FALLS

Tom Sheffield at the B & M Bait Shop saw a number of largemouth bass weighed in at the shop. Eddy Robinson's was the heaviest. It tipped the scales at 5½ lbs. The largemouth was taken on a live shiner. The bass are hitting well according to Tom, and action is also good for crappies and other panfish. Kevin Brown caught 41 bluegills from Wappingers Lake. On the Hudson, Tom Lake has been casting yellow bucktails for stripers from 5½ to 12½ lbs.

HOPEWELL JUNCTION

Joe's Tackle Shop reported an unusual catch from Croton Falls Lake, a 5 lb. bowfin. These fish are not native to New York and they are naturally found in more southern waters. Also out of Croton Falls was a big 10 lb. brown trout which fell to a live shiner. On the Hudson River, stripers are again small at the tunnel by Cold Spring, however, there are larger fish at Bannerman's Island.

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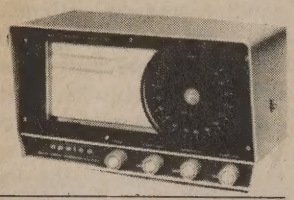

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